

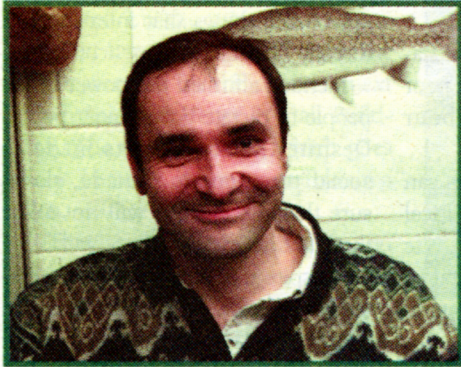
# Concordia's Thursday Report

Publications Mail Agreement No.: 1758594

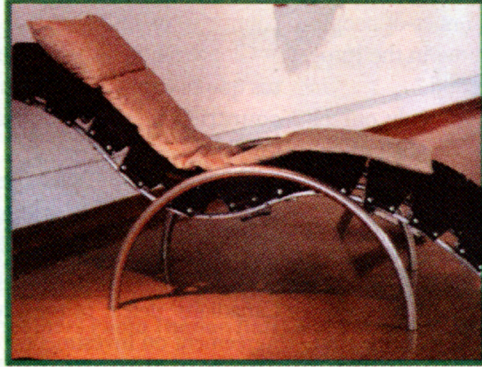
VOL. 25, N° 13

MARCH 29, 2001

<http://pr.concordia.ca/ctr/>



Crossing an ocean to study fish  
page 5



Innovations in design  
page 7



Making art in Italy  
page 7



E-learning at the office  
page 3

## Concordia signs performance contract with Quebec

Concordia will receive \$51 million from the Quebec government over and above its operating grant, thanks to a performance contract signed at the university on March 19.

Rector Frederick Lowy and Education Minister François Legault signed the document, in which the university administration undertakes to achieve several specific goals.

**Graduation rates:** Currently, only 62 per cent of full-time students at Concordia continue their studies all the way to graduation. The goal is to

increase this rate to 80 per cent over the next decade.

"It would be easy to do this by raising admission standards or by going easier on [grading] the students, but we won't do that," said Dr. Lowy. "Instead, we'll try to do a better job of supporting them in their studies."

Students in their first and second year are at particularly high risk of getting discouraged about their studies. They might find that they have chosen the wrong academic program, or they might lack moral or

cultural support at home.

One of the biggest reasons students drop out is financial. A study done for the university several years ago showed that of those students who stop attending Concordia, about half don't return because they can't afford it.

The university will increase by one-third the fellowships and scholarships offered to its graduate students, who are particularly needy. This amounts to about \$300,000 in grants.

**Professor-student ratio:** In the

wake of massive retirements, Concordia's ratio of full-time professors to students has risen to 26.4/1, lower than the Quebec average. In the contract, the university undertakes to lower this average to 23 students per one full-time professor.

Indeed, about three-quarters of the new money will go towards hiring 150 new full-time professors; by 2010, three-quarters of the faculty will be new hires.

The rest will go to Concordia's libraries and specific projects, such as converting the Cinema Depart-

ment's equipment from analog to digital.

**Rationalization of programs:** Since 1994-95, driven by budget compression, Concordia has merged or discontinued 166 programs with low, or no, enrolment. The goal will be to continue the drive for a "student-driven" curriculum; if enrolment is consistently low, the continuation of a course or program will be questioned.

**Administrative efficiency:** This is

continued on page 4

## Faculty of Fine Arts kicks off building fund

BY BARBARA BLACK

The Faculty of Fine Arts launched its internal building fund on March 22 with a presentation by the leading architect in the new downtown construction project.

Bruce Kuwabara, of Kuwabara Payne McKenna Blumberg, flew in from Toronto during a snowstorm to give an appreciative audience of about 40 people his thoughts on the ambitious plans to build a downtown landmark called "Le Quartier Concordia."

"This is a very, very important project for us," Kuwabara said. "The site is absolutely remarkable." The firm is not simply trying to build separate buildings for the visual arts, Engineering and Computer Science and the John Molson School of Business, he said, but to create a new home for "an urban powerhouse, a campus closely connected to the idea of Montreal."

Kuwabara and his firm have a strong affinity with the art world, and have designed many buildings for cultural institutions, notably the Design Exchange and the Carsen Centre for the National Ballet of Canada, both in Toronto. They have also designed buildings for the University of Toronto, where Kuwabara teaches architecture.

Concordia's own reputation in the visual arts, Kuwabara said, makes it essential to make an architectural statement through this project. Thus the design calls for the Fine Arts building



"The site is absolutely remarkable," architect Bruce Kuwabara said.

to be right on Ste. Catherine St., a low-rise three-storey building with the much taller Engineering tower behind it.

Galleries and commercial spaces – Kuwabara suggested art supplies – will be at storefront level. Inside, the building will resemble an artist's loft, full of space and light. There will be generously large staircases linked to the outer walls, because, Kuwabara said with a smile, "all the best conversations take place on staircases." As much as possible, it will be a "green" building, with an outdoor sculpture court, greenery and efficient use of energy.



The new Fine Arts building at the corner of Ste. Catherine and Mackay streets will resemble an artist's loft, full of space and light, and feature galleries and a sculpture court.

Jacob Fichten and Gerald Soiferman were also on hand at the presentation. Fichten Soiferman Architects, of Montreal, are the managing partners in the project.

Richard Renaud is vice-chairman of the Board of Governors, chairman of the advancement committee, and chairman of the steering

committee for the Concordia Building Fund Campaign. He told the audience that about \$20 million has been identified toward the new Fine Arts building, about half from the recent capital campaign, and half from the government to compensate for getting out of rented property. Another \$20 million must be raised.

Himself a generous donor and friend of the university, Mr. Renaud quoted Sir Winston Churchill: "We make a living by what we get; we make a life by what we give."

Rector Frederick Lowy happily held aloft a copy of *En Route*, Air Canada's on-flight publication, whose March issue has a cover story on the Kuwabara architectural firm and illustrates it with the drawings for Concordia's buildings.

He said that the only obstacle to the project, aside from the needed funds, is possible opposition to the removal of the derelict York Cinema, on the corner of Mackay and Ste. Catherine Sts.

"We are not Philistines, or anti-preservation," Dr. Lowy said. The building is too far gone to renovate, he added. It would have to be re-constructed, and there is neither the money for that, nor the need for such a facility at the university.

In fact, he added, enrolment in both Fine Arts and Engineering and Computer Science has risen to such a degree that when the engi-

continued on page 4



## Globalization creates rollercoaster economy

BY SIGALIT HOFFMAN

"Globalization is a tidal wave," said Professor Margie Mendell, director of Concordia's Karl Polanyi Institute. "You have to make sure you have a life jacket or else you'll drown."

In an interview, Mendell warned that globalization has created a "casino culture" that has destabilized national economies and changed the nature of investment.

"In order to invest in the prosperity of an economy, time is critical," she said. "The concept of time has evaporated. Investment has become highly speculative. The whole notion of an enterprise has shifted."

The recent stock market nosedive and the plummeting of Nortel stocks are some examples of the rollercoaster economy globalization has

created, the professor of economic theory and public policy said, and individuals bear the brunt of this instability.

"People don't have the flexibility to move in and out of high-profit areas," she said. This leads to money flowing in and out of countries without granting citizens an opportunity to profit from the investments in their country.

"As long as there is trade, you need to have some capital remaining in your country to keep it going," Mendell said. "Financial markets that exist exclusively to generate capital [are] not about productive investment."

She noted the paradox in the concept of a free-market economy. "What you're told is that it's a big world. We can buy things from Mexico or Thailand [with] no nasty gov-

ernments creating problems. This is a lie," Mendell said.

"There are more people involved in steering this free-market global economy than the number of people fine-tuning the economy in the [protectionist] postwar period."

Financial instability is only one of the many drawbacks of globalization. Multinational plants in developing countries have played a role in preventing their advancement, said Concordia Religion professor Fred Bird.

"They've created a bubble that might make developing societies worse off," he said. Bird explained that these multinationals often operate a plant for a certain number of years and then relocate, leaving local employees with no long-term skills such as literacy.

Mendell agreed, and added that

developing countries do not share the profit from the goods they produce. "Capital flows out to earn profits elsewhere. It is not available in the country of origin," she said.

Globalization also enforces the status quo of exploiting workers in poor countries that have lower labour standards.

The challenges of globalization can be overcome, according to Political Science professor Everett Price. He gave the example of the Council of Canadians' defeat of the Multilateral Agreement on Investment.

"As long as you can continue to be perceived as a thorn in power's side, you must be doing something right," he said. "If you have the will and determination, you can affect the political agenda."

Price agreed with Mendell in her view that globalization is not an

inevitability, but a political choice. "We've got to really consider how our society is organized politically to ensure that the citizenry have greater say on the things that interest them directly," he said.

Mendell affirmed the power of the people to dictate government policy. Despite the severe cuts made to social programs in Canada, she is sure that the citizens will not allow them to disappear.

"Despite the cuts, there was a certain limit below which the Canadian population would not have been willing to [allow programs to sink]," she said. "Markets are important, but when societies are determined by them, that's when people have to wake up — and they will."

*This is part of a series of articles about globalization and the views of Concordia faculty and students.*

## Multinationals drive down quality of life in Philippines, says church worker

BY MARIE VALLA

Two weeks before globalization protests are expected to take place at free-trade talks in Quebec City, Filipino-born Sister Rosanne Maillillan shared her experience of alternative development strategies with a small audience on the Loyola Campus.

Her talk was sponsored by the Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace. Sister Rosanne, who was born in the Philippines, is secretary of the social action arm of the Filipino Bishops' Conference.

"What we want is to develop a safety net for the population and protect basic sectors against the free markets' law," she explained.

The Philippines has a long history of globalization. "We pray the Spanish way, but live the American way," she joked. The Philippines was first colonized by the Spaniards, then occupied by the Americans until its independence in 1946.

More than 50 years later, multinationals have become the new foreign rulers, she said.

Under the pressure of multinationals, small farmers have moved away from the traditional culture of rice

and corn to concentrate on high-value crops such as asparagus, mangoes or pineapples. But the intensification of monocultures has contributed to the degeneration of the soil.

### Vicious circle of debts

To remedy this situation, farmers buy, on credit, fertilizers and pesticides from business contractors who also provide them with seeds. But the vicious circle of debts quickly tightens. The quantity of fertilizers needed increases every year as the soil and the farmers alike get gradually poorer.

Meanwhile, the production of rice and corn for the domestic market decreases, forcing the government in Manila to import rice from India and Thailand at much higher prices.

Confronted with the absurdity of the situation, the Church has been promoting development programs based on sustainable agriculture at the village level. The goals are both to alleviate poverty, a reality for 70 per cent of the population, and to empower local producers, Sister Rosanne said. "We tell them that land is first for food and the family."

The idea is that organically produced food sells at a higher price on

the markets and that chemically-produced food is bad for health. "At first it was difficult," Sister Rosanne recalled. "It took five years for the villagers to realize that it worked." Some farmers finally started to go back to using manure or compost as fertilizers. Institutions have been set up to provide credit for buying the seeds.

These changes give Sister Rosanne reason to hope. She is confident the new president Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo will remain in active dialogue with the Church hierarchy and support further initiatives to give land back to sustainable farming.

### 25 Artists, 25 Years Celebrating the Faculty of Fine Arts

March 27 - April 17  
Leonard and Bina Ellen Art Gallery  
J.W. McConnell Building, SGW Campus

Works have been assembled by 25 artists who have attained their degrees since the Faculty was born in 1975.

The exhibition brochure includes an essay by Leah Sherman, Professor Emerita, tracing the history of the Faculty.

Gallery hours: Monday - Friday, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., Saturday, 1 to 5 p.m. For more information, please consult our new Web site, at [www.ellengallery.com](http://www.ellengallery.com).

#### CONCORDIA RESEARCH FELLOW 2001

Dr. Van Suong Hoa,  
Dept. of Mechanical Engineering

#### "Composites"

Tuesday, April 3  
4 p.m.  
Faculty Club (H-767)

Henry F. Hall Building,  
1455 de Maisonneuve Blvd. W.

### Writers Read @ Concordia

Elisabeth Harvor  
Today - March 29  
8:30 p.m., H-407

Author of *Let Me Be the  
One and Excessive Joy  
Injures the Heart*

### CAMPAIGN FOR A NEW MILLENNIUM

Unveiling of a plaque recognizing faculty and staff donors

Wednesday, April 4

Noon - Atrium of the J.W. McConnell Building  
and Friday, April 6

Noon - Loyola Campus, AD-131

Cake and coffee will be served.

### CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION INVITATION

### 11th Annual Alumni Recognition Awards Banquet

THURSDAY, APRIL 5

ST. JAMES'S CLUB, 1145 UNION AVENUE

Humberto Santos Award of Merit  
Jonathan Wener, S BComm 71

Distinguished Service Award  
John Freund, L BComm 64  
Malcolm Renshaw, S BA 59  
Claude St. Amour, L BA 63

Honorary Life Membership  
Dr. John Wilfred O'Brien

Alumni Award for Excellence in  
Teaching

Dr. Patsy Lightbown  
Dr. Randy Swedburg

Outstanding Student Award  
Vince Labossière, BSc 00,  
Dip Sports Administration

Cocktails, 6:30 p.m., Dinner, 7:30 p.m. \$55 per person, \$500 for a table of 10.

RSVP, 848-3818, Stephanie Brown,  
Office of University Advancement and Alumni Relations.

### THEOLOGY IN CONVERSATION



Friday, March 30  
7 to 9 p.m.

"Resistance to Hemispheric  
Free Trade: Signs of an  
Emerging Consciousness  
in the Americas?"

Presenters: Gloria Pereira-  
Papenburg, Karen Rothschild, Eric  
Shragge, and Dennis Stimpson  
Loyola High School Cafetorium

Saturday March 31  
10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

"The Role of Theology  
in Developing a New  
Consciousness About the State  
and Economic Powers"  
Presentations and discussions  
with faculty and graduate students  
of the Department of Theological  
Studies  
Loyola High School Library

Loyola High School  
7272 Sherbrooke St. W.  
(corner of West Broadway)



# Educational technology keeps us learning in the workplace, says David Wells

BY AMY PARADIS

"People tend to think of education in terms of an elementary school or high school classroom," said Education Professor David Wells, "but what do you think goes on in corporate training?"

Wells is the director of the Educational Technology graduate program. In an interview, he explained that while the use of technology is certainly beneficial in school settings, corporations have increasingly been demanding — and willing to pay for — technological solutions to training employees. And thanks to high-quality internships, Concordia graduate students are gaining valuable experience in this dynamic environment.

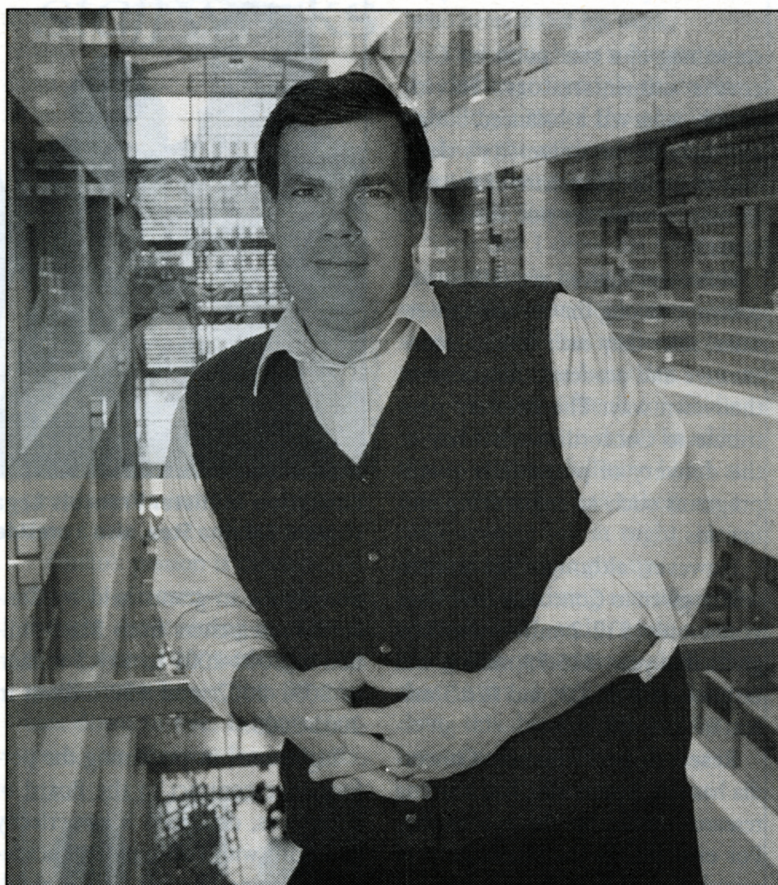
Educational Technology, said Wells, is an applied social science in which technology supports learning and performance. In recent years, for example, the popularity and the availability of the computer has introduced CD-ROM- and Web-based training to corporate settings.

The computer, above all other tools, is changing our expectations regarding business practices.

"When I first came to Concordia, I remember that when people tried to reach you by phone, they'd expect you to call them back within four to five days," Wells said. "Now, with e-mail, if someone sends you a message at nine in the morning, they call you at noon asking, 'Have you got my message?'"

A recent performance technology innovation is electronic performance support, which provides employees with a large quantity of easy-to-access knowledge at their fingertips. This is often used in call centres, where the workers may not personally know the answers to the customers' inquiries, but can search for them on a database.

"Before electronic performance support, companies were training their employees one week out of two to keep them up to speed. But today,



ANDREW DORNOVSKI

**Concordia graduate students are gaining valuable experience in dynamic corporate environments, said Education Professor David Wells.**

rather than asking, 'What do I have to know?' electronic performance support systems allow us to ask, 'How fast can I access what I need to know?'"

Wells and others in the department have also built up connections with high-profile Canadian corporations, such as Bombardier, Air Canada and the Canadian Space Agency. Companies are provided with corporate educational tools in exchange for student internships.

Students who choose to attend the 675-hour internships at these companies may work on developing training packages, or creating Web sites, among other projects.

"We want to give them the best possible return for what they put into the course," Wells said. "When students leave, we want them in situations where they can pick and

choose the companies they want to work for."

Their on-the-job experience has certainly paid off.

"Thirty to 35 students graduate from the program every year. At the graduate level, in English, in Eastern Canada, we're it," Wells said. "The supply is not as great as the demand."

The diversity of the students' educational backgrounds is regarded as a bonus to the program.

"We have Arts and Science, Fine Arts, Commerce and Engineering students from all over the map, bringing interesting perspectives," he said. Wells himself graduated from Concordia with a Bachelor's degree in Accounting.

"It creates a rich environment, and a lot of peer-to-peer learning takes place."

## Les passionnés du monde du spectacle

**L**es Arts du spectacle dans la ville (1404-1721) et Les Arts du spectacle au théâtre (1550-1700) sont deux ouvrages collectifs parus aux Éditions Champion et

qui rassemblent les textes de 21 professeurs du Canada, de France et des États-Unis. Ils ont été édités et présentés par deux professeurs de l'Université Concordia : Madame Marie-France Wagner et Madame Claire Le Brun-Gouanvic, qui ont également rédigé des articles.

Le projet a été lancé en

1998, lors du colloque de la Société canadienne d'études de la Renaissance à Ottawa; puis des collaborations de spécialistes européens et américains sont venues enrichir le noyau initial pour donner naissance à ces deux merveilleux ouvrages, qui combleront tous les passionnés du monde du spectacle, mais aussi les esprits avides de nouvelles connaissances.

En effet, il y est question des spectacles au sens large, du théâtre en salle au théâtre de rue, en passant par les fêtes, entrée royale ou foire, dans l'espace public que sont la ville, la place ou le parvis de l'église... Ces deux publications sont disponibles à la bibliothèque de l'Université Concordia.

Pour tout renseignement : Mmes Wagner et Le Brun, Département d'Études françaises, 6e étage du Pavillon J.W. McConnell, tél. : 514-848-7520 ou 7528.

—Audrey Nanot



La statue équestre de Louis XIII, "La Voye de Laict ou Le Chemin des Heros au Palais de la Gloire" (Avignon, J. Bramereau, 1623), par Louis Palme, cliché Bibliothèque nationale de France, Paris.

## at a glance

*This column welcomes the submissions of all Concordia faculty and staff to promote and encourage individual and group activities in teaching and research, and to encourage work-related achievements.*

Congratulations to business student **Nadia Collette**, who did us proud as Queen of the St. Patrick's Day parade on March 18. Concordia engineering students made a lively appearance on their own float in the three-hour parade through downtown Montreal.

Three magisteriate students in Art Education presented their research at the 8th Annual Graduate Gender Research Symposium, held March 7-9 at the University of Calgary. **Deena Dlusy-Apel** presented *Inscribing Women's Bodies: A Personal Portrayal of Breast Cancer*, which has already received a lot of media coverage. **Carol Beer Houpert** presented *Women's Art - Body Memories*, and **Arshi Dewan**, who bases her work on her aboriginal heritage in Asia, presented *Guardians of Culture*. The works were developed in a research seminar taught by **Elizabeth Saccá** (Art Education) last term.

**Jordan Le Bel** (Marketing) is the editor-in-chief of a book on food marketing called *Health and Pleasure at the Table*.

**David Ketterer** (English, retired and living in London, England) has published "Shudder: A Signature 'Crypt'-ogram in *The Fall of the House of Usher*," in *Resources for American Literary Study*, and "A Part of the ... Family[?]: John Wyndham's *The Midwich Cuckoos* as Estranged Autobiography," in *Learning from Other Worlds: Cognition, Estrangement and the Politics of Science Fiction and Utopia* (Liverpool UP/Duke UP).

**Robert Tittler** (History) has been appointed by the president of the North American Conference on British Studies to chair a special committee on the state of British studies and British history in Canada, with a mandate to work with British Council of Canada on this issue. He has also been named external examiner for the history program at Carleton University.

**Luis Ochoa**, lecturer in Classics, Modern Languages and Linguistics, and coordinator of the Spanish-language courses, gave a talk on the situation in Chiapas at Université Laval on February 5. On February 12, he gave a workshop at the Université de Montreal on task-based language teaching as part of the course in Spanish pedagogy offered at that institution.

**Hugh Hazelton** (CMLL) was invited by the Department of French, Italian and Spanish at the University of Calgary to speak on *Latino-Canadian writing*. He spoke on "*La soledad del exilio: marginalidad y aislamiento en la literatura latinocanadiense*," on February 8, and then spent the afternoon in conversation with students in the graduate program about Hispanic-Canadian writers and the literature of exile and diaspora.

**Catherine Vallejo**, chair of CMLL, was in Cuba for the International Colloquium on *Mujeres latinoamericanas y caribenias, reescritura/reinvención de pensamiento, historia y mitos en torno a lo femenino*, held at Casa de las Americas in Havana from February 19 to 23. She gave a paper on "*Mercedes Matamoros (1858-1906) y Safo (s. VII a. C.): mitificación de lo clasico y entrada en lo moderno*."

Tenor **Dimitris Ilias** and soprano **Maria Diamantis**, both graduates of Concordia's Music program, are members of the Chroma Musika. They have released a compact disk of classical and Greek music called *Piangerò*. It was recorded at the Oscar Peterson Concert Hall, and was produced by Music professor **Mark Corwin**. It was launched at the Hellenic Community Centre in mid-December, and is available through the distributor Indiepool.

**Jose Antonio Gimenez-Mico** (CMLL) was chair of the session on Race and Ethnicity at the International Conference of the Canadian Association of Latin American and Caribbean Studies (CALACS) held in Guatemala City on February 23 and 24. He also presented a paper on "La funcion de la 'utopia andina' en la configuracion del imaginario cultural andino."

**Bradley Nelson** (CMLL) presented a paper on "*The Marriage of art and power: Anamorphosis and control in Calderon's 'La dama duende'*" at the annual conference of the Association of Hispanic Classical Theater, held in El Paso, Texas, from March 7 to 10.

**Kathryn Lipke** (Studio Arts) has just completed an exhibition, *Seed Catchers*, at the McClure Gallery of the Visual Arts Centre in Westmount, and has an installation, *Locus in Quo*, on view until April 12 at the Maison de la Culture Mercier.

**Trevor Gould** (Studio Arts) was part of a recent panel discussion on museums at the Art Gallery of Hamilton. His exhibition *Posing the Public*, which explores the role of the natural history museum in defining culture, is at that art gallery from April 1 to May 20.

**Thérèse Chabot** (Studio Arts) is participating in an exhibition in Glasgow called *Contemplations on the Spiritual* with a number of other artists. It is part of 550th-anniversary celebrations at Glasgow University, and runs throughout the month of April.



# letters

## Alumnus seeks more library privileges

The university comes begging for a contribution every year, informing me I am a valuable member of the "Concordia family." And I would be glad to oblige, if they treated me that way.

Instead, I am treated more like poor relations. Since I graduated, I have written two best-selling non-fiction books, which have been published in five languages around the world. I have produced documentaries for the BBC and the CBC and am a guest columnist for the Sunday New York Times. My work completely depends on my ability to conduct high-quality research.

Living in a city with the worst public library facilities in North America, I have to depend on my university library for this research, but Concordia has placed numerous obstacles in my way. As an alumnus, I have severely restricted library privileges, which make it impossible to access the information I require.

Among the restrictions that are particularly burdensome are a lack of access to inter-library loans and a five-

book lending limit. I also require access to a number of research databases, although I understand some of these restrictions are placed by the database providers rather than the library.

I am often forced to travel to New York or Chicago to conduct research that any student could do within the confines of the Webster Library.

I can understand the potential problem if tens of thousands of alumni were using these services or taking out more than five books at a time. But I suspect there aren't more than a handful of us who require these extra privileges.

I understand that Concordia is not the only university library with such a policy, but it is time to rethink this discrimination and start treating alumni as if we were truly part of the university family.

Max Wallace, Journalism 90

Editor's note: Information for alumni on the use of Concordia's Libraries may be found at <http://library.concordia.ca/services/aluminfo.html>.

## Chinese repression of dissent and individual rights are causes for concern, says PhD student

In "Singer responds to the Gazette for implied criticism of China trip" (CTR, March 15), Dean of Arts and Science Martin Singer attempts to deflate the question of human rights in China by arguing that Beijing has made progress on such issues in recent years and that it is not by lecturing the Chinese government that the West will improve the situation.

He says that China's philosophical and cultural tradition, rooted in collective rather than individual rights, is different from ours. This line of reasoning, often referred to as "cultural relativism," stresses that we cannot judge the Chinese government's actions by the yardstick of our Judeo-Christian values.

Without a doubt, cultural relativism is a useful tool to understand why a tradition of individual rights has emerged more slowly in China than in the West.

However, this argument assumes that all Chinese people hold similar beliefs with regard to individual rights. This disregards the long tradition of social and political dissent which emerged from the New Culture and May Fourth Movements in the early 20th century.

More recently, the sad events of Tiananmen Square in 1989 offer a grim reminder that some Chinese citizens are willing to fight for individual rights such as free speech and the right of assembly. Amnesty International estimates that last year in China there were as many as 100,000 protests against human-rights abuses, including demonstrations and riots in the countryside.

By invoking this argument, we also run the risk of subscribing to a form of cultural determinism which would

preclude any attempt to influence China's stance on human rights.

Dr. Singer quite rightly reminds us that China has made "remarkable progress in improving the living conditions and extending the freedom of its people." Nevertheless, recent developments in China offer little grounds for unrestrained optimism. In its 2001 report, Human Rights Watch warns that "Chinese authorities showed no signs of easing stringent curbs on basic freedoms."

While Beijing has released a number of political prisoners in recent years, partly in response to international pressure, the Chinese authorities' repression of political and religious dissent, their persistent assault on free speech and their widespread use of torture have continued virtually unhampered. That such practices are widely used in the world's most populous country should be a cause for concern to Canadian academics and politicians alike.

While it would be shortsighted to isolate China for its sordid human rights record, increased contacts between our two countries offer an opportunity to influence Chinese authorities into adopting more tolerant policies.

Instead, Team Canada's enthusiastic visit to China and its highly publicized co-operation among our political, business and academic elites lend credence and legitimacy to the Chinese government and its policies. Although Dr. Singer implies that "private conversations are more likely to prove effective in such matters," these cannot be substituted for a coherent policy of advocacy for human rights.

Christian DesRoches

PhD student, Department of History

# Performance contract signed with Quebec

continued from cover page

something of a sore point for Concordia administrators. Having already achieved a balanced budget and halved the university's debt, they feel that their share of the performance-contract pot should be larger.

However, figures are difficult to compare among the various universities, since they each divide administrative and academic functions in their own way. The ministry pays tribute to Concordia's efficiency in the delivery of potentially costly programs such as engineering and fine arts.

However, although \$51 million will be given to Concordia over three years, only \$12.2 million will be given this year; \$15.75 million will be given in 2001-02, and \$26.5 million in 2002-03.

**Research performance:** Concordia has not, historically, had a strong research profile, but this is changing. For example, of the recent crop of new hires, about 65 per cent are recipients of research grants. However, Lightstone has said that this must intensify, and he has called for a corresponding "change of culture" among faculty members.

The performance contract calls for



Education Minister François Legault exchanges views with Fine Arts student Sabrina Stea, also a presidential candidate in the CSU election.

an increase in grants held by Concordia researchers from \$16.5 million in 2000-2001 to \$17.5 million in 2001-2002, and \$20 million in 2002-2003.

Lightstone, in presenting the performance contract to the Board of Governors, described it as perfectly in accord with the long-term academic planning that has been unfolding at the university over the past several years.

Dr. Lowy expressed confidence that all of the goals in the document will be met.

The Quebec government has

awarded \$600 million over three years as the result of performance contracts signed with universities. McGill was granted \$100 million, the Université de Montréal \$124 million, UQAM \$98.5 million, Bishop's \$10.9 million, Laval \$87.5 million, and the Université de Sherbrooke \$55 million.

The full text of the performance contract, in the original French, can be found at the Web site for Concordia's Government Relations and External Affairs, at <http://relish.concordia.ca/govrel/>.

—BB

## Appointments in the Office of the Registrar

Terry Too has been named Associate Registrar, making him second in command for University Registrar Lynne Prendergast when she is unavailable.

Terry joined Concordia University from Consolidated Bathurst in 1980, first as Manager of Administrative Computing, and then as Assistant Director. He joined the Office of the Registrar in 1991 as Assistant Director, Student Administrative Services, and in 1994, became Assistant Registrar.

Bruce Mackenzie is now the permanent incumbent in the position of Assistant Registrar, Office of the Registrar. He has performed the functions of this position over the past three years as a disability reassignment for Ray Martin.

Bruce will pick up elements of his portfolio that were redistributed when he participated in the SIS Enhancement Project.

While he will complete the Concentration Change - Distributed Processing project, the Data Warehouse projects that he was involved with have been transferred to Terry Too. The Graduate Studies Service Team will return to Bruce's portfolio effective April 1, 2001.

## Fines Arts launches building fund

continued from cover page

neering/visual arts complex opens, it will already be filled to capacity.

Dean Christopher Jackson thanked his faculty and staff for turning out for the launch, "particularly those in the performing arts, whose building is that much further away." After the current projects are realized, a performing arts complex will be built on the Loyola Campus.

Dean Christopher Jackson is chair of the internal building fundraising campaign of the Faculty of Fine Arts. There are six vice-chairs: Paul Langdon (Art Education/Creative Arts Therapies), Loren Lerner (Art History), Lydia Sharman, assisted by Karen Langshaw (Design Art), Michael Montanaro (Performing Arts) and Penny Cousineau (Studio Arts).

**Correction** An item in the *Names in the News* column in the March 15 CTR contained several serious errors about Adalbert Lallier, who has been testifying for the prosecution at a war crimes trial in Germany.

Dr. Lallier is a retired professor of Economics, not Political Science, although, towards the end of his time at Concordia, he had been teaching some Political Science courses.

In addition, his involvement in the war in Europe was inaccurately described. He was not a concentration camp guard but a 19-year-old cadet who was forced to attend anti-tank ditch-digging operations by Jewish inmates outside the Theresianstadt concentration camp.

The editor sincerely apologizes to him for these errors.

## Concordia's Thursday Report

### Concordia's Thursday Report

is the community newspaper of the University. It is published 18 times during the academic year on a bi-weekly basis by the Public Relations Department of Concordia University, 1455 de Maisonneuve Blvd. W., Montréal, Québec H3G 1M8 (514) 848-4882  
E-mail: [barblak@alcor.concordia.ca](mailto:barblak@alcor.concordia.ca)  
Fax: (514) 848-2814  
<http://pr.concordia.ca/ctr/>

Material published in the newspaper may not be reproduced without permission. **The Back Page** listings are published free of charge. Events, Notices, and Classified Ads must reach the Public Relations Department (Bishop Court, 1463 Bishop St., Room 115) in writing no later than Thursday 5 p.m. prior to Thursday publication.

ISSN 1185-3689

Publications Mail Agreement No.: 1758594

### Editor

Barbara Black

### Layout

Debbie Hum

**Concept and Production**  
Elana Trager

Marketing Communications

**World Wide Web Site**  
[pr.concordia.ca/ctr/](http://pr.concordia.ca/ctr/)



**Concordia**  
UNIVERSITY



# Fish biology and behaviour fascinate Istvan Imre

BY JANICE HAMILTON

When Istvan Imre was a child, his father used to take him fishing in lakes and streams in his native Romania. He noticed that at certain times of day, he could easily catch a fish with a certain type of bait, while at other times, nothing seemed to work. Later, as a teenager and young adult, his fascination with fish biology and behaviour deepened, and he read more about them.

"I wanted to get a university education to study them in an organized fashion and a scientific environment," he said in an interview, "but I couldn't get into university for reasons to do with the political regime in Romania." (His family is ethnic Hungarian.) So in 1993, at age 26, he and his wife immigrated to Canada.

Imre arrived in Toronto five days before the deadline for applications for the following September, and quickly discovered that Guelph University had the courses he wanted. There, he completed both an undergraduate honours degree in fisheries

biology and a master's program in fish ecology.

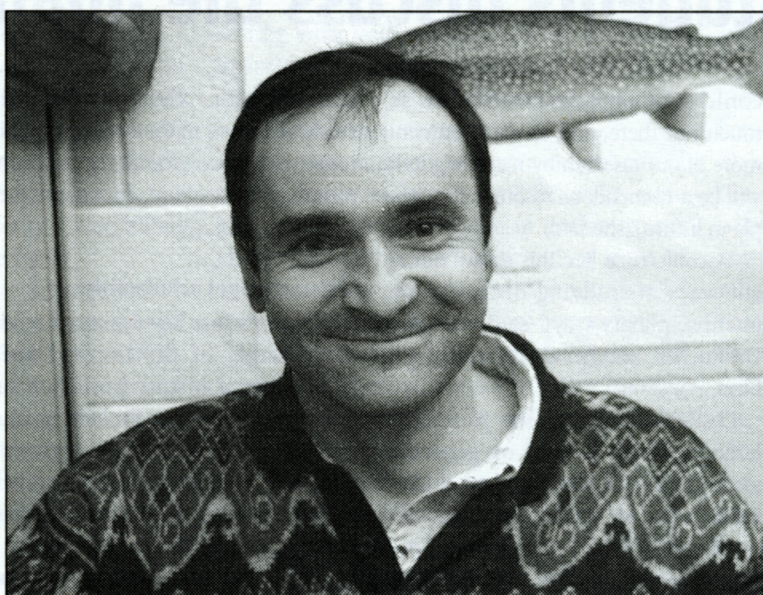
When it came time to look around for a PhD supervisor, he said, "Dr. James Grant of Concordia University was highly recommended by several people. I knew his scientific work from his publications, and his research interests overlap a great deal with mine. I was lucky that he accepted me."

## Salmon and trout studies

Imre came to Concordia in 1999, and is now doing the research for his PhD.

His work focuses on the relationship between food abundance, territory size and population density of juvenile salmonids, cold-water fish such as salmon and trout.

"A number of different studies of vertebrates, including reptiles, birds, and small and large mammals, have shown there is a link between food abundance and territory size," he explained. The greater the abundance of food, the smaller the territory each individual requires in order to grow and survive.



Istvan Imre studies food abundance, territory size and population density of juvenile salmonids, cold-water fish such as salmon and trout.

"However, what has not been shown is the exact quantitative relationship between the variables. Let's say you have a stream and you can measure the food abundance. What quantity of fish could that stream support?" That is one of the questions his research sets out to answer.

The answer is of both theoretical and practical interest. For example, fishery managers stock streams every spring with juvenile fish, so they need to know how many fish to use. It is wasteful and expensive to put 100,000 juveniles in a stream that can only support 10,000.

Some of the data he is using come from an 11-year study of Atlantic salmon in Catamaran Brook, New Brunswick, by a multidisciplinary team involving researchers from the University of New Brunswick and other institutions.

Imre began his own fieldwork on juvenile rainbow trout last summer at the Cultus Lake Laboratory in British Columbia, a facility belonging to Fisheries and Oceans Canada. He plans to return this year with some financial help from Sigma XI, an American society that supports academic research. He is being awarded \$945 U.S., which will help cover travel and living expenses in B.C.

Imre also has an NSERC doctoral fellowship, and is the recipient of the David J. Azrieli Graduate Fellowship, awarded to the highest-ranking student in the Concordia graduate fellowship competition.

As for the future, Imre hopes to get a post-doctoral fellowship and, eventually, a university teaching post so he can share his fascination with fish with others.

## Euripides speaks to us across 2,500 years

BY ANNA BRATULIC

The final production of the Theatre Department's 2000-2001 season is *The Bacchae*, a classical Greek play written by Euripides some 2,500 years ago.

Given the age and origins of the piece — the beginning of Western civilization — comparing the themes of *The Bacchae* with the concerns of modern Europe and North America is a way to measure the evolution of the Western world.

The play is about a Dionysiac cult, and roughly deals with the themes of civilized man versus natural man, the mutual suspicion these dual "personalities" have for one another. It's about violence, intolerance and fundamentalism. So, have we come a long way?

"No!" said Harry Standjofski, director of the coming production, between rehearsals. "Fortunately or unfortunately, we haven't gone past what they're talking about."

But it's the timeless character of the stories that is particularly fascinating, says Standjofski, the sense that the writers of these dramas were on to something when they strove to enlighten humans about their own behaviour.

While the drama of *The Bacchae* may still be relevant to a modern audience, staging it is not quite so easy. It is a typical piece of classical drama in its tendency to include many long monologues that are melodramatic by today's standards. These have been significantly pared down.

Typically, for example, it's not enough to convey sadness by utter-



Theatre students Hala Taher and Penny Charbonneau in a scene from *The Bacchae*, playing until April 8 at the D.B. Clarke Theatre.

ing a teary sentence and then crying. Rather, a band of women, known as the "chorus," that are in the play yet not part of the action, often lament over several strophes, or paragraphs, to express the sadness felt by all.

One of the reasons for all these words is that sets were very simple at the time. Often, a play was presented in the open air, with just a few changing-rooms for the actors.

To compensate for the lack of decoration which would help situate the play for the audience, the actors spent a lot of time describing scenes.

Standjofski, a versatile actor-director who works in English and French, stage and television, modern and classical, appreciates the subtlety that was often used in staging Greek dramas. Violent scenes, for example, could be heard offstage rather than seen on stage, leaving a lot to the imagination.

The challenge for this production

has been to adapt the piece in a way that would entertain modern audiences and still keep the play classical.

"If you try to play it with a sort of high style (very traditional), then it seems sort of ludicrous," Standjofski said. "If you try to play it realistically (i.e., without the melodrama), then it doesn't work because the language won't allow it. There's a purity of acting style. It has to be played with a lot of emotion, but at the same time, it has to be carefully restrained."

"I'm not particularly enamored with classical Greek plays as plays. They are way too long, and there is a lot of verbiage. But we have to remember that this was the beginning of Western dramaturgy. In one way they can't be topped, in another way they're very crude."

*The Bacchae* runs from March 30 to April 8 at the D.B. Clarke Theatre on the SGW Campus. Tickets for students cost \$5. See our Back Page for details.

## Psychoanalysis, Cinema and Literature: Public Film/Book Series

The Canadian Psychoanalytic Society has been holding a public film and book series for a modest audience for about 20 years, but when they started holding it at Concordia, there was a leap in attendance.

"We were holding it at the Society's venue on Côte-des-Neiges and getting about 20 people," said organizer Brian Greenfield.

"Three years ago, I said, Let's put ourselves in the community. I contacted Dr. Lowy, and he was extremely receptive to giving the series at the university. Now we are getting about 130 people at each event." Concordia Rector Frederick Lowy is a psychoanalyst and a member of the Society.

The biggest increase in the audience for the films and talks on aspects of psychoanalysis has been in the number of students. Dr. Greenfield has been supervising students in Concordia's Creative Arts Therapies program, and many of these students join his crisis intervention team at the Montreal Children's Hospital.

However, the students who make up about 30 per cent of the audience for this series come from all disciplines, including business, and from other Montreal universities and CEGEPs.

The organizers do their best to make psychoanalysis accessible. For example, last fall they sponsored a talk on the Harry Potter phenomenon.

"We want to familiarize people with the friendly language of psychoanalysis," Greenfield said. "A lot of people have opinions about Freud, but have never read his work."

"Of course, there are any number of analytic schools, with a broad range of ideas, and in the series, we try to attach these ideas to clinical and real-life experience for the average person." —BB

**The following films will be shown at 7 p.m. in the J.A. DeSève Cinema, 1400 de Maisonneuve W.:**

**April 20: *Like Water for Chocolate***  
Film uses sophisticated and sensual Mexican cuisine as a metaphoric background to a story about mothers and daughters.  
Presenter: Gabriel a Legorreta, PhD.

**April 27: *The Cider House Rules***  
Complex themes of abandonment, caregiving, coming of age.  
Presenter: Stephen Rosenbloom.

**May 4: *The King of Masks***  
Chinese film about an old street magician searching for an heir.  
Presenter: Allannah Furlong, PhD.

Also, on May 11, at 7 p.m., in Room 937 of the Henry F. Hall Building, 1455 de Maisonneuve Blvd. W., Dr. Harvey Giesbrecht will give a lecture and lead a discussion on dreams.



# Graduate students discuss the nuances of history and media

BY JANE SHULMAN

Concordia's annual History in the Making conference often breaks new ground by gathering historians from Canada and the United States to present papers on newly-emerging areas of study, and this year was no exception.

History and Media was the theme, bringing together communications, journalism and history graduate students, many of whom discussed the interdisciplinary nature of their work.

"Almost everyone is working with media to some extent in their research now," said Melanie Martens, one of the

conference organizers. "There's so much out there, and as we document more of our research by recording it, it will be a tremendous resource for people in future," she said.

"A conference like this shows different ways of studying history in an interdisciplinary way," said Christian DesRoches, another conference organizer.

DesRoches attended last year's conference, which focused on genocide studies, while he was a student at Université Laval. He was so impressed with the department and professors at Concordia that he switched schools, and is now studying with Frank Chalk. "I became involved with this conference because I was interested in expanding the bounds of history," he said.

The conference featured filmmakers

and journalists who incorporate the study of history in their work, and historians who use journalistic and communications tools to document their research.

## Video changes scholarship

The day's first keynote speaker was an example of the latter. Daniel Walkowitz, a history professor and director of the metropolitan studies program at New York University, is currently looking at the development of folk dance in American culture in the first half of the 20th century. It sounds like perfect material for a paper in a history journal, but Walkowitz decided it would be more relevant to transform his research into a documentary film.

In the paper he presented at this

conference, called "Folk dance, history and videotape: Using video oral history in the post-modern era," Walkowitz argued that the meeting of media and history presents new problems and opportunities for historians. The editing process, camera angles and the role of the narrator are all issues of concern.

Unlike an academic paper, a film may leave much of the deciphering of the material to the viewer, who may be less inclined to view a film critically than an essay. In fact, noted Walkowitz, a film viewer is often inclined to be spoon-fed the material by the narrator.

"History is not a stable backdrop to a historian's take on things," Walkowitz said. "In video, the risk is allowing the audience to turn off and let someone tell them what it all means."

Walkowitz noted that using film also has some distinct advantages. Video uncovers nuances that would be missed if viewers did not see the original footage. He demonstrated his point by screening excerpts from his upcoming film about folk dance. He showed that when interviewees explained the way they danced, they did not always accurately reflect what they were actually doing.

"Oral history is not a representation of the past — it's the memory of survivors who have been asked to recount their experiences," said Walkowitz.

## Panels cross borders

The conference featured panel discussions on a range of topics. "There

continued on page 8

## Studying history is often underestimated here

The fact that his department has seen a decline in enrolment in recent years doesn't surprise Professor Stephen Scheinberg, though he wishes it were otherwise.

"At a university like Concordia, where many students are in the first generation of their families to go to university, it's not seen as a priority," he said. "At the big elite universities like Yale, it's different. Those students understand the depth that studying history provides."

However, as chair of the History Department, Scheinberg is looking forward to an increase in enrolment as the general education requirement is introduced over the next few years. This will require new undergraduates in Arts and Science to choose from a 12-credit core of courses.

Students in the humanities will have a better opportunity than ever to sample history courses, and Scheinberg is sure they'll respond. "We'll get to display our wares," he said.

About half the students taking History courses at Concordia are in History programs, while the other half are taking the courses as electives. The department is grounded in conventional, broadly-based survey courses, but specialized courses have also proved popular.

Professor Frank Chalk is an internationally acknowledged scholar in genocide studies, and Professor Graeme Decarie, a well-known social historian of Quebec and Canada, has developed a course on Canadian military history.

Members of the History Department have been active in the new Irish Studies program, and there are plans to develop an Asian studies core. Professor Frederick Bode will introduce a course next year that will look at how film has affected our understanding of history. —BB

## How a filmmaker became part of Canadian history

BY FRANK KUIN

It has been nine years since his documentary series *The Valour and the Horror* provoked a high-profile controversy among Canadian journalists, historians, war veterans and politicians, but listening to filmmaker Brian McKenna's impassioned defense of the three documentaries about the role of the Canadian Armed Forces in the Second World War, you would think the struggle was still raging.

That's because according to McKenna, it is. Speaking at the seventh annual History in the Making conference at Concordia last week, which had 'history and media' as its theme, McKenna said the effects of his controversial documentary series — in which some of the "darker sides" of Canadian operations were highlighted — are still apparent in Canadian broadcasting.

"There's a chill," said McKenna, who made the programs with his brother, CBC journalist Terence McKenna. "Because of potential reaction, [TV stations] don't commission controversial films." He cited the CBC's recent response to a proposed documentary about Canadian soldiers in the Korean War, paraphrasing it as: "I think we have made enough films about war."

## The struggle for history

Looking back on the commotion following the airing of *The Valour and the Horror*, McKenna said that "we knew there would be controversy as we began digging into the Second World War — but we had no idea what we were getting into."

Recounting the McCarthy-esque Senate hearings, reviews by the CRTC and a CBC ombudsman, and a \$500-million libel suit by veterans'



"The history still goes on," said documentary filmmaker Brian McKenna.

groups, McKenna observed that "we became part of the struggle for history."

The series, which claimed to uncover aspects of the Canadian role in the Second World War that had been suppressed by historians, set off a storm of criticism when it was broadcast to record audiences by the CBC in January 1992.

Of the three parts, *Savage Christmas* (about the 1941 battle for Hong Kong), *Death by Moonlight* (about Canadian involvement in bombing raids over Nazi Germany), and *In Desperate Battle* (about the invasion of Normandy in 1944), the latter two provoked particular outrage.

In *Death by Moonlight*, Canadian air force personnel based in Britain were portrayed as being sent repeatedly into German air space with slim

chances of survival, to drop bombs that devastated civilian targets and decimated the German population.

In *Desperate Battle* depicted the Canadian assault on Nazi-held Verrières Ridge in northern France as ill-considered and a senseless slaughter of members of Montreal's Black Watch regiment.

While the valour of Canadian officers was never questioned, military high command — notably Chief Marshal Arthur 'Bomber' Harris, the British Commander-in-Chief of Bomber Command, and Canadian General Guy Simonds in Normandy — was criticized for being reckless and irresponsible.

Showing part of *In Desperate Battle* during his keynote lecture, McKenna did not budge on that point, arguing that "the cost was

made even bloodier by bad training and inept commanders."

## Storm of criticism

The series infuriated many veterans and historians. Both groups claimed to have greater authority than the filmmakers to speak about the war. Veterans accused the McKennas of undermining the traditional view of the Canadian war effort as unblemished. They pressured CBC management into denouncing the series and lobbied successfully for investigations by the Senate and broadcasting watchdogs. Their libel suit was eventually thrown out by the Supreme Court.

Canadian historians agreed to appear before the investigations to discredit the films. Only a few, including Concordia professor Graeme Decarie, openly defended *The Valour and the Horror* and the right for it to be seen. In his introduction of McKenna last week, Decarie called the series "extraordinarily powerful" and added that "anyone who has seen the films could not for a moment doubt where [McKenna's] heart lies."

As if to counter attacks from veterans and professional historians that McKenna had no business giving his controversial accounts of the Second World War, he steeped his lecture in references to relatives who had served in the Canadian Armed Forces. For instance, his grandfather's younger brother, Adrian McKenna, a graduate of Loyola College, was killed in the First World War. A cousin died in Bomber Command.

McKenna noted that critics of *The Valour and the Horror* "are still trying to suppress the films." Just last month, he learned that veterans' organizations were lobbying the National Film Board, co-sponsor of programs, to quietly drop them from its library. "The history still goes on," he said.



# Artist takes students to Italy to "learn to see"

BY WENDY FLETCHER

Painter and Studio Arts lecturer Michèle Delisle is the cultural steam-engine behind Arte in Italia, an annual month-long observation drawing course taught every spring in Bolsena, Central Italy.

This six-credit Fine Arts course gives students an opportunity to learn drawing techniques in one of the world's richest cultural centres, and to become acquainted with many schools of art, from ancient Rome through the Gothic and Byzantine periods to the Renais-

sance, with influences from the Middle East.

Delisle is herself a Concordia graduate in Fine Arts (1982). A working artist, she moved to Florence in 1985, returning to Montreal each summer to teach. Now she is perfectly trilingual — French, English and Italian. She has been teaching part-time in Concordia's Studio Arts Department since 1983.

Wanting to share her love of Italy's artistic and historical richness, she proposed the course in Italy, and it was launched in 1988, on a shoestring, in Jesi, on Italy's Adriatic coast. Each spring since then, she takes 15 students there, initiating them in the art of seeing with all five senses and capturing the experience on the page.

"It is an apprenticeship of pre-

senting what you're seeing," Delisle said in an interview. The course is open to students from any university — in fact, anyone who wants to explore their creative potential.

While learning how to keep a sketchbook of their observations from nature, art, architecture and daily life, students learn to analyze space, choose and develop a subject; they learn to understand the structure and dynamism of composition, and the essence of perspective.

What makes the course special is that the scenes and emotions the students are learning to render are rooted in the reality of Etruscan Italy.

"I do my best to show students the most beautiful scenes I know of," exclaimed Delisle, who can barely contain her enthusiasm for the country. The scent of jasmine and roses waft

over the vistas of Bolsena, where she has taught the course for the last 10 years.

Bolsena is a small medieval town of 6,000 between Florence and Rome. The town's history can be traced to the first Iron Age through the ruins of Villanovan villages under the waters of Lake Bolsena. The birthplace of the martyr St. Christina, Bolsena is the site of a religious festival on June 10, when believers draw elaborate images on the streets and colour them in with fresh-cut flowers.

The Concordia students stay in a pension on the outskirts of an ancient volcanic crater, in the heart of a huge garden. They are close to the town centre, where merchants sell fish, cheese, olives and vegetables in a square dating back to the 18th century.

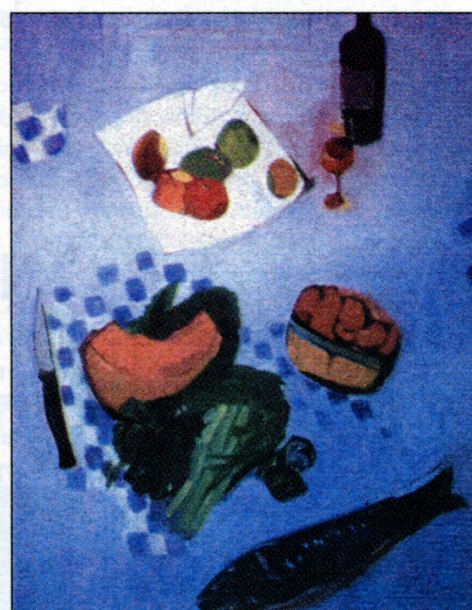
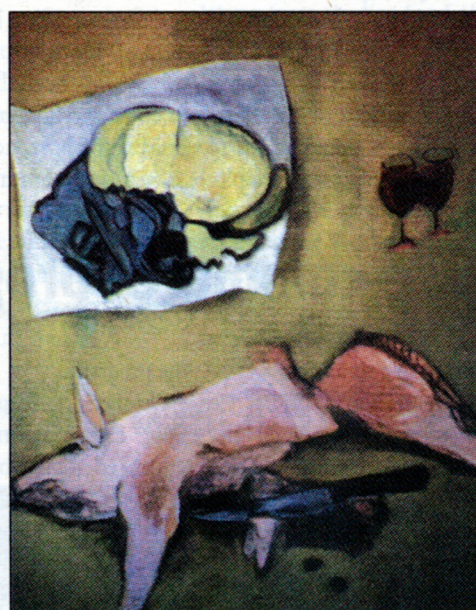
Mornings are spent drawing, and afternoons studying Italian language and culture, and discussing their work. They take day trips to cultural sites, such as Orvieto and Florence. The trip ends in Rome, where the group spends three days exploring the principle monuments under the guidance of a local specialist in art history and archaeology. Some students stay on after the course for more touring.

The trip costs \$3,630; this includes tuition, an introductory course in Italian, plane tickets, room and board and excursions.

Delisle says from experience that it's the kind of trip that changes students' lives. "Very strong bonds are created during this one-month experience, and your way of seeing and understanding the complexity of art history changes forever."



ANDREW DOBROWOLSKY



Painter and studio arts lecturer, Michèle Delisle (left), and two of her works: *Grande table au cochon*, (1999) and *Grande table au poisson* (1999).

## Graduate certificate in digital technologies breaks new ground

BY DEBBIE HUM

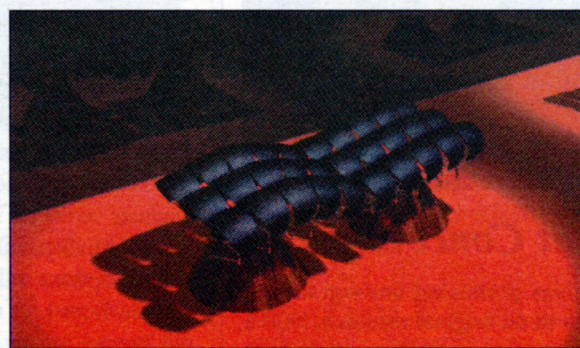
A new graduate certificate program starting this fall will allow students from interdisciplinary backgrounds to explore the impact and possibilities of digital technologies in the practice of design.

The one-year, 15-credit program will combine the use of digital technologies as a tool in the design art process, with an advanced investigation of their economic, social and cultural consequences. Students in the program will have access to a three-dimensional scanner and to computer-assisted prototyping equipment, both instruments that are changing development in product design.

"New opportunities are being afforded designers with the convergence of various kinds of media in the world of the digital," said Michael Longford, assistant professor in Design Art. Longford, with Lydia Sharman, chair of Design Art, and Assistant Professor P.K. Langshaw, developed the certificate program, Digital Technologies in Design Art Practice, over the past year.



Computer rendering of preliminary design (right) and finished chaise longue (left), integrating an ecological approach using recycled tires. Designed and built by Design Art student, Marco Turchetta, it received the 2000 SIDIM Eco Design Award, and orders from Quebec and the U.K.



While digital technologies have been an integrated part of the design art curriculum for more than 12 years, this will be the first graduate certificate that Concordia offers in the studio area. It is considered unique in Canada for its combination of experimental and applied approaches to two- and three-dimensional design and digital media design.

In addition to three seminar courses, students will undertake individual research projects. These will explore the relevance of digital technologies in one or two of the following areas: print media, 3D object,

interactive media, hybrid practice, and theoretical studies.

The program is conceived as a way of responding to the challenges that digital technologies present to the designer. In addition to recent graduates, it is expected to draw professionals who are already working in the ever-expanding digital field, including people with computer science backgrounds who want to integrate design into their work.

"In industry, the notion of a sabbatical is becoming more popular," Longford remarked. In an age when professionals have to constantly update their learning and knowl-

edge, more people are contemplating a year away from work to explore digital venues in a more concentrated way, develop skills they can bring back to their jobs, or even shift their career paths, he added.

The program accommodates working professionals by offering courses on Thursday evenings and Friday afternoons, and weekend access to computer labs.

In just 10 years, digital technologies have had an enormous impact on design. In the Visual Arts Building, state-of-the-art computer labs reside next to workshops in which traditional approaches to design,

such as maquette building, are still used. A new rapid prototyping machine, sometimes called a "3-D printer," will continue the technological revolution in product design by enabling designers to render their 3-D digital creations into objects.

Dr. Sharman emphasized the importance of generating discourse and pedagogy on the impact, ethics and social responsibilities surrounding digital technologies. The reading seminar "Language, Politics, Manifestos," for example, will consider issues on design ecology and ethics, gender polarization and biases, and political strategies in the public sphere.

The launch of the new program will coincide with an international symposium held at Concordia in the fall, called "Declarations of [Inter]dependence and the Im[edia]lcy of Design."

The deadline for applications to the certificate program is April 18. Application forms can be picked up at the School for Graduate Studies, the Department of Design Art, or through the design art Web site, <http://design.concordia.ca/>.



# B2B Canada demystifies e-business – and business is buying

BY SIDHARTHA BANERJEE

**B**2B Canada is probably the most comprehensive study of business-to-business e-commerce in Canada. And unlike other aspects of the bustling, evolutionary e-business industry, the book may still hold that distinction five years from now.

The writers, Journalism lecturer Matthew Friedman and his partner, Marlene Blanshay, have broken down the principles and terminology of the new e-business and electronic economy into digestible chunks that can be easily consumed by any reader.

"We wanted to provide the context of what was going on, not tell people what to buy. We aren't in the PR business," Blanshay said. "Certain issues of e-commerce won't change, since they are issues and themes which apply to business in any form."



Marlene Blanshay and Matthew Friedman lay out the principles and terminology of the new e-business and electronic economy in their book.

Writing their first book together took eight to 10 months, "about five dog years in technology," Blanshay said.



If they had reviewed or recommended specific products, she said, "it would have been dated when it was released. Some of those compa-

nies won't exist in a couple of years."

B2B Canada was published by Macmillan Canada in December. Friedman said, "Our goal was to provide some insight and knowledge so that smart business people could make informed decisions for themselves. When you cut through the jargon and the hype, the story of electronic commerce is a ripping yarn, and we wanted to tell it that way."

Friedman and Blanshay, both Concordia graduates, are business journalists who have specialized in information technology for local and national publications. Because they track the industry on a daily basis and have a wide interest in electronic commerce, they have a perspective some writers lack.

"We're journalists, which means we are careful observers," Friedman said. "We have no vested interest in electronic commerce, yet we have

spent the last few years watching it evolve."

Friedman's first book, *Fuzzy Logic: Dispatches from the Information Revolution*, won the 1998 Quebec Writers Federation's First Book Award.

It was Blanshay's first time writing a book, but she adapted well. "I'd only written features and stories, so an entire book seemed about as doable as walking across North America," she admitted. "It was horribly stressful at times because of the deadlines."

The American version of the book, titled *Understanding B2B* and published by Dearborn Trade, is due in May. With B2B Canada already one of the best-selling business books in Canada, it is likely the Americanized version will follow suit.

"Electronic commerce isn't just an alternative way of doing business," Friedman said. "It's the way business is done."

## New e-commerce programs enrich degrees

BY SIDHARTHA BANERJEE

**W**ael Hijazi was waiting for an opportunity to combine an interest in Web design with his business background. So, when Concordia introduced the new minor and graduate certificates in Electronic Business Systems, he jumped at the opportunity.

"Web design is really a passion for me," said Hijazi, a third-year MIS co-op student. "So when the opportunity came, I thought, 'If I take this minor, it could help me find a job afterwards.'"

E-commerce is rapidly becoming the way to do business, and Concordia won't be lagging behind as the demand for graduates with e-commerce experience increases.

Launched in January, the 12-credit minor currently has 40 students enrolled from a variety of commerce-related backgrounds. The 18-credit graduate certificate is scheduled to be launched in September.

Both options will offer a range of courses, from how to strategically use the Internet to how an electronic supply chain system works — all while keeping a strong general commerce component.

"It's still business first and how technology can support it," said Anne-Marie Croteau, the director of the Graduate Certificate in E-Business and one of the professors who developed

the program.

"It is tricky, because sometimes we have expectations that are more advanced than what the technology can offer, and some other times, people don't understand what the technology can do. You still need to have a strong business model."

The e-commerce idea came from a recent addition to the John Molson School of Business, Gregory Kersten. "We started with the idea of setting up an institute in e-commerce," said Dr. Croteau, who has been at the university for four years and developed the idea with Kersten.

"Our department has been teaching courses related to e-commerce for the past three years, so we were in a good position to start thinking what we could offer to our students in terms of a minor."

The program was developed specifically with Concordia's own professors and their research interests in mind. "We really started in-house," Dr. Croteau said.

"We based our program on our current faculty members and their research interests so that we could offer knowledge in e-commerce, not something that is just made up. Doing this has also given us more faculty support."

The graduate program will comprise six classes of 18 credits. All stu-

dents will be required to take two core courses that cover the fundamentals of e-business, and then choose either the management stream or the technology stream, or a combination of both.

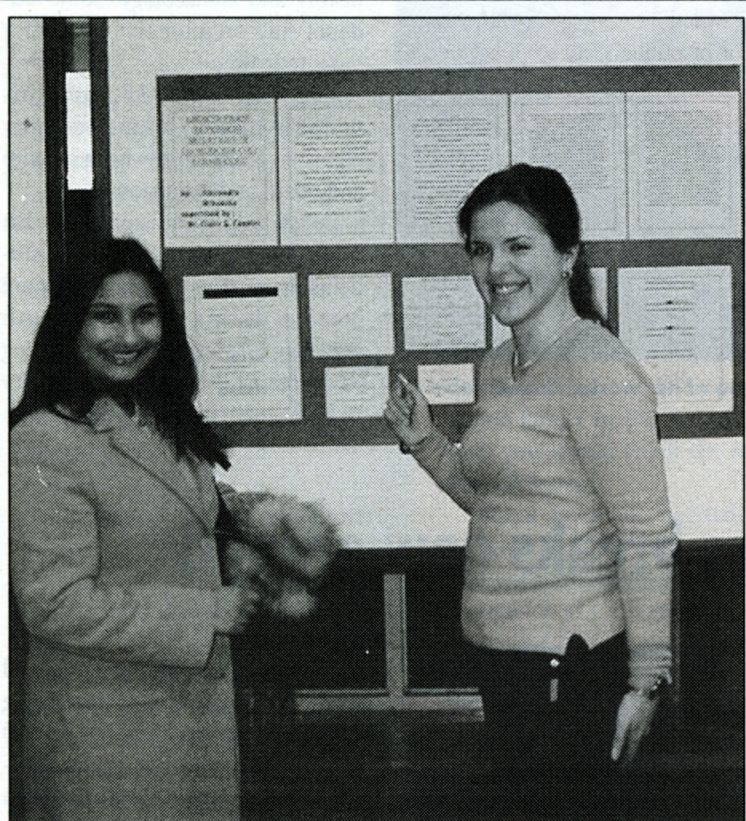
Entrance to the graduate certificate is not a given; requirements include an undergraduate degree (not necessarily in commerce or business) with a fair GPA and reference letters. Applicants also have to write the GMAT entrance test.

"It's like getting into the MBA program, minus the work experience," Croteau said.

The future looks bright for e-business at university, with programs at Concordia and McGill popping up this year. Croteau can see the program eventually developing into an undergraduate degree. "I think we're very close," she said. Next year will be spent looking at the minor and graduate degrees. "These are the first steps, but I think it will grow."

As for Hijazi, currently putting some of his skills to use at Ericsson as part of his co-op, he feels that e-commerce will continue to grow.

"You'll always have the traditional way of doing business," he said, and even with the recent dip in Web-related business, "you'll always need e-commerce graduates. It would be a step backwards for society if it doesn't continue to evolve."



## Science College Day at Concordia

Concordia's Science College, which gives promising undergraduate students in the sciences an opportunity to do original research, held a daylong event March 13. It featured poster presentations of student projects and a lecture by a former graduate, Dr. Michel Côté, now a physics professor at the Université de Montréal. He talked about the design of novel materials.

In the photo above, Science College student Kaamini Deonaraine (left) looks at a poster by Alexandra Urbanska (right), who presented a poster with Biology Professor Claire Cupples on "Growth phase dependent mutations of *E. coli* strain CC107."

HELLENIC STUDIES LECTURE SERIES

## "THE ROLE OF BYZANTINE STUDIES IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE HELLENIC STUDIES PROGRAMS IN NORTH AMERICA"

Speros Vryonis  
Director, Center for the Studies of Hellenism  
(Rancho Cordova, California)  
FRIDAY, APRIL 6, 7 P.M.  
Rooms 767-763, Henry F. Hall Building

## History in the Making at Concordia

continued from page 6

were a lot of options on the line-ups. We decided to go with less obvious choices sometimes to see how people would interact," said Martens. "I think it was a fruitful decision."

The Dissemination of Knowledge, one of the afternoon panels, featured a paper called "Education, Printing

and Renaissance Public Discourse" and another about using media in contemporary classrooms.

The wide array of material covered continued with a panel called Race, Ethnicity and the Press, where presenters discussed black media in Montreal; race, the press and the war on drugs; and news and propaganda in the Irish Rebellion of 1641.

"It was really neat to have history generalists talking with people in media studies and communications about history," Martens said. The various perspectives of the 50 participants at this year's conference made for broad and dynamic discussions.

"It's a big draw at a conference when you cross those kinds of borders," Martens said. "It was a real coup."



## Artist Giulio Plescia makes more than copies

BY BARBARA ROLNICK

Giulio Plescia, 26, has been working at the copy centre at Concordia's Loyola Campus for about a year and a half. Few of the students who depend on him to meet their looming deadlines realize that behind the photocopy machines lies the binder of a budding artist.

In fact, several of Giulio's drawings have made their way out of his binder and onto the walls, but they often go unnoticed by the people coming and going.

He enjoys the commotion. It keeps him in touch with the student life he misses and hopes to return to. His plan is to save up enough money to study graphic design. Although he attended an art college in Italy for five years, he says that times have changed and he needs more education.

"You have to learn how to work with computers. Nobody wants a normal painting or a hand drawing any more."

Nevertheless, he always has a pencil and paper nearby. Inspiration comes from everywhere, and he likes to be prepared. "I have episodes, like *The Sopranos*. They continue every night in my

## staff works



dreams," he said. "The next day I put them down on paper. Some people write words — I like to draw."

Giulio's passion is cartoons. He draws caricatures, and has thought about setting up a kiosk to sell them. He's working on his speed, trying to get from 20 minutes down to five. In the meantime, he draws for friends,

acquaintances and anyone else who hears about his work.

"Concordia hires some mentally challenged people to do the recycling. One of the guys who works in the cafeteria talks to me about his favourite WWF wrestler Stone Cold Steve Austin."

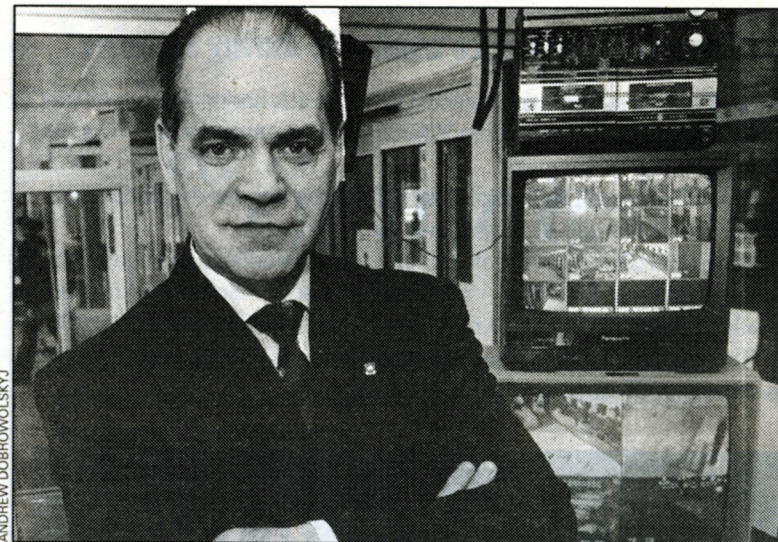
"One day I drew his head on the wrestler's body. He started saying 'Hey, man, look at me, I'm so cool,' and that made me feel good, it really made my day."

It has been difficult for Giulio to find the time to draw. In addition to working full-time hours at Concordia, he has taken on a maintenance job at night. He's determined not to give up.

"When you bring something to a certain level, and it's just something that you cannot shut off, that is art. I will always keep doing this, because this is what I love to do."



Artist Giulio Plescia, flanked by Steve Scales (left) and Giovanni Spadaccino, coordinator of the Loyola Copy Centre. Above is Giulio's rendering of the same group.



Determined to promote peace and safety on campus.

## Jean Brisebois plans new image for Security

BY BARBARA BLACK

Jean Brisebois has a lot of background, and he's already putting it to use in his new job. In the month since he became Concordia's Director of Security, he has dealt with the overturning of recruitment tables on the mezzanine, a precipitous rise in thefts in the library, and the theft of a large number of computers from the university's administration offices.

In a varied 30-year career, Brisebois has been an officer in the federal police, director of public security of a Quebec municipality, and responsible for the security of two airports. He was a commander of the Canadian contingent for the United Nations peace mission to Haiti in 1995-96. He served on the Poitras Commission, which looked into criminal investigation and legislation, notably with regard to the Sûreté du Québec.

He comes to a university security department that has been without a permanent director for two years, and faces the challenges of a multi-building, two-campus site. He has 15 Concordia security officers, but the university also requires about 60 additional officers from Garda, a private company.

Brisebois is determined to improve morale, image and effectiveness. Security officers will soon shed their police-like uniform for a tie and jacket. A strong effort will be made to make sure all officers know both campuses well.

In return, he expects loyalty and a firm but respectful attitude from each member of his group. "The students and staff are our clientele — that is very important," he said.

Even before the current rash of thefts, he planned to upgrade security cameras and alarms throughout the campus, and he expects the rest of us to do our part. He has put a prevention program in place in the library. Security officers are warning library users when they see belongings at risk by putting a bright green card into an untended purse or bag.

In January alone, there were an unprecedented 26 reported thefts by library users, 21 of which were from women's purses. Brisebois suspects a ring of professionals from outside the university, and until they can be caught, he urges students to be vigilant.

Brisebois grew up in Montreal North, and like many of his friends, left school after Grade 11. He became a surveyor — Habitat 67 and the Canadian Pavilion at Expo were among his subjects — and then answered an ad for a job with a police force. "I soon realized I needed more knowledge, so I undertook courses at the Université de Montréal," he said. He was soon identified as a promising student, and given a scholarship. He got a BSc, a BBA (business administration) and went back for Master's of Public Administration, while continuing to do police work.

Brisebois has a palpable enthusiasm for getting involved in his community. He spends many hours a week as a director of the Air Cadets League, "not to make them soldiers, to make them better citizens." He's a past president of the Quebec Council of St. John's Ambulance.

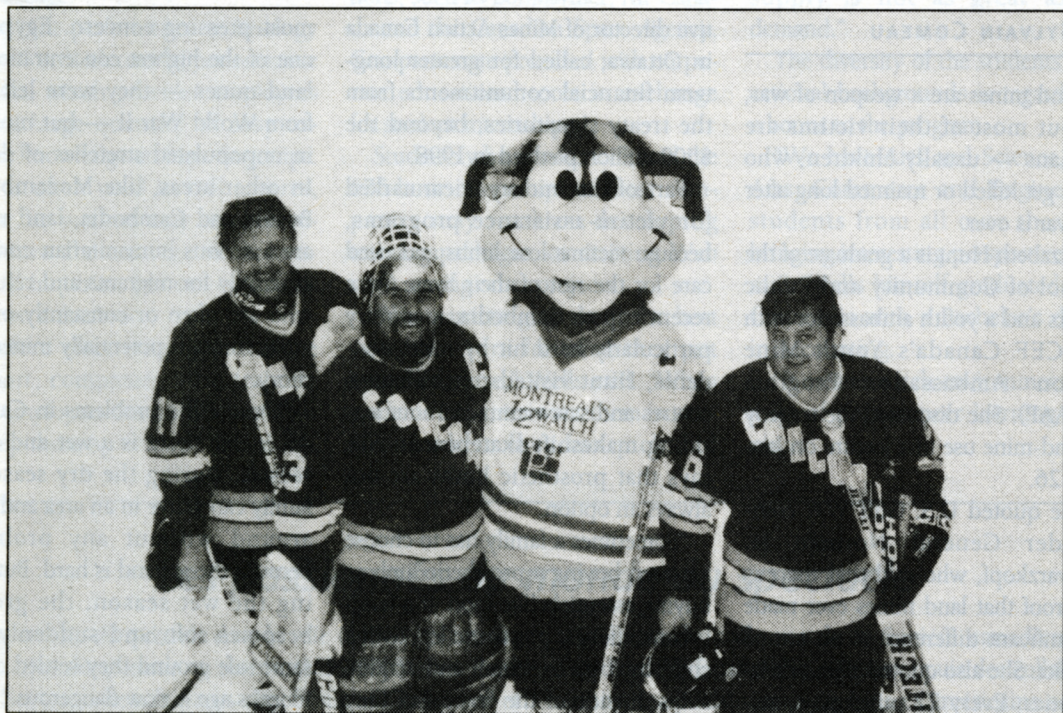
His real love, however, is working with people at risk. He's on the board of CAFAT, a group in Laval that helps people with dependencies, and he holds monthly business lunches to finance a prize for young people who conquer their addictions and start a new life.

## Help Line on the prowl

The IITS Helpline is once again searching for part-time representatives to help people around the university with computer problems.

The Helpline receives 350 to 450 telephone calls a month, and resolves most of these during the first call. The remaining calls are referred to other groups in Instructional and Information Technology Services.

If you are interested in being a Helpline representative, please send a paper copy of your CV to Geoff Selig, Help Line Coordinator, IITS, LB-800, or an electronic version to hl-jobs@concordia.ca.



## Staffers trounce CFCF at hockey

The staff hockey team soundly beat the team from Channel 12 by a score of 8-1 on February 24. Glenn Weir got four of those goals — and we hear he's also the fastest wit on the ice.

Above, left to right, staff hockey players Henry Kovalcik (Electrical/Computer Engineering), Chris Alleyne (Marketing Communications) and Weir (Architectural Maintenance) are seen with the CFCF-12 mascot at the Pierrefonds Arena.

The game was held to raise funds for the Alex Laurie Scholarships Fund. CFCF provided support for the event and for the fundraising effort.

Over the season of pick-up games at the Loyola Campus rink on Friday nights after work, and with a boost from CFCF, the team has raised about \$1,000 for the fund. There are plans for a bigger fundraising event next season at Loyola.



## Concordia residence available during summer

**H**aving a summer conference? Can't stomach having the in-laws stay with you for the weekend? Need space for student visits? Why not have them stay on campus?"

That's Residence Life Coordinator Jeff Peters' pitch for the student residence rooms that will be vacated over the summer.

Hingston Hall, on the Loyola Campus, offers affordable and convenient summer housing from May 15 through August 18. Group bookings are available, but space is limited.

The rate is \$15 per night, single occupancy, or \$30 per night, double occupancy. Jeff can be reached at 848-4756.

## the back page

continued from page 12

### Furnished apartment for rent

From July to December 2001, Plateau Mont-Royal, Marie-Anne and Iberville Sts. 5 1/2 2nd floor duplex, 2 bedrooms, office, private terrace, heating, electricity, telephone and Internet included. \$1,500/month. 747-7747.

### Biofeedback kit

With explanatory manuals and articles. \$30 or best offer, 935-6469.

### Seeking yearbook

Have you got a 1964 Loyola yearbook to replace the one I lost? Please call (902) 539-1664.

### For rent

4 1/2 lower duplex near Loyola available now. Quiet area, access to yard, near small park. Driveway, basement. Rent negotiable (can be furnished). 489-5031.

### Seeking apartment

Non-smoking professional woman from Ontario, to attend Concordia in Fall 2001, seeking small apartment with character and natural light. Must be very close to Concordia/Loyola campus. Can house sit for faculty. Contact cmvoice@hotmail.com.

### Driving service from NDG

Discounts rates to all parts of Mtl. Darren 488-4095.

### SGW grad ring wanted

Want to buy a 1973 Sir George Williams University graduation ring to replace one that was lost. Franklin Freedman, 696-6040.

### English tutor available

Need help with your paper? Want to pass your next exam? Call 620-0917, or WestlandEnglishTutor@hotmail.com.

### Parking space

Driveway parking available near Loyola. \$40/month. Carol 481-9461.

### For sale

Mac 56k modem, CPU, monitor and speakers \$400. 487-5999.

### Room for rent

Room for responsible non-smoking person. \$330/month. Must love dogs. Near Loyola. 481-9461.

### English angst?

English writing assistance, proofreading/ editing for university papers, resumes, etc. Experienced, good rates. Lawrence 279-4710, articulationslh@hotmail.com.

### English teacher

Experienced English teacher can help you with conversational or academic English. Do you want to improve your speaking, reading, writing, listening? Jon, 931-0647, jontaejon@hotmail.com

### Services offertes

J'aimerais offrir mes services aux étudiants qui auraient besoin de faire la mise en page de leurs travaux, thèses, etc. J'effectue toujours mon travail de façon rapide et précise. c\_delisle@videotron.ca, (450) 654-5194.

### Volunteers needed

Mondays, Wednesdays, and/or Fridays for lunchtime supervision, game room activities, etc., with adults with intellectual disabilities at the Centre for the Arts in Human Development on the Loyola Campus. References required. 848-8619.

### Study Italian in Florence

7 levels of Italian offered. Choice of sharing an apartment with student, or home stay. Also available: painting, sculpting, cooking and photography. Package includes 4 weeks' accommodation, language course registration, return airfare from Dorval. \$2,600. May 26-June 23. Info: Josée Di Sano 488-1778.

### Work at Italian summer camps

Teach English through drama and outdoor activities. Intensive TEFL introductory course provided. Certificate issued. Camps all over Italy. Fax/phone: 0039 0184 50 60 70, www.acle.org.

### Literacy volunteers

Frontier College Students for Literacy at Concordia are recruiting volunteers to be part of a non-profit team organizing literacy activities and tutoring. 848-7454, stu4lit@alcor.concordia.ca.

## Workshops

### Computer workshops

Please visit the IITS Training Web site to find out about our various computer workshops and how to register: <http://iits.concordia.ca/services/training>.

### Library workshops

Webster Library (downtown): hands-on (computer lab) workshops in LB-203. Sign up at reference desk, or 848-7777, library.concordia.ca.

## Meetings & Events

### Department of Applied Human Sciences

Information session for the certificates in Family Life Education and Community Service. April 25, 3-7pm, 2085 Bishop St., Room F-107. Info: 848-2260.

### International Russian language summer courses

From June 25 to July 11, with the Slavic Department: at the Tallinn Pedagogical University in Estonia. Six classes daily (78 total). Basic communication in English. Info: [www.tpu.ee/International/russian.htm](http://www.tpu.ee/International/russian.htm).

### Concordia Baseball's Second Annual Golf Tournament

Concordia Baseball invites you to join them at their Second Annual Golf Tournament, at the Hemmingford Sport and Country Club, Friday, August 24, 2001. Tee off at 10am - best ball "Vegas" format. Tournament fee of \$85 includes 18 holes of golf, golf cart, full course rib steak dinner, great prizes. Info: 630-1156, 482-0227. Entry deadline is August 10.

### Montreal International Celtic Festival

Sunday, April 8, 8pm. Desi Wilkinson and friends perform in a special concert featuring the traditional music of Ireland, Brittany and Quebec. Marianopolis College, 3880 Côte-des-Neiges. Tickets \$17.25 at the door, \$14 in advance, \$11.50 for students and seniors. Info: 481-3471, 848-8710.

### A world record!

Saturday, March 31. Sixty students needed to help break the world record for the longest paper clip chain in a 24-hour marathon event. The attempt will take place at Skol Gallery, 460 St. Catherine W. For information and to sign up: [millionclips@aol.com](mailto:millionclips@aol.com).

### Administration programs information sessions

Information sessions for the Graduate Diplomas in Administration and Sport Administration, and Graduate Certificates in Administration in the John Molson School of Business. Thursday, 6-7pm, March 29. GM 403-2, 4th fl. Information: 848-2766 or [diadsa@vax2.concordia.ca](mailto:diadsa@vax2.concordia.ca).

# Hackers help create better systems, say panelists

BY SYLVAIN COMEAU

**T**he internet is like a virtual wild west, a wide open and expanding frontier — but like any free for all, bandits and troublemakers of all kinds pose a constant security threat. Internet experts discussed the battle against hackers at an SCPA panel on February 28.

"The internet evolved naturally, and was created as a new frontier without rules," said David Souaid, director of business development at Surefire Commerce, a company which processes credit card transactions on the internet.

"One of our biggest problems is fraud — we see more and more people trying to hack into our database, writing their own software to break our encryption of credit card numbers and then charge purchases to us."

Louis-Eric Simard, of the internet security firm Freedom Factory Inc., said that hackers are not all crooks, or even always a pain in the virtual rear.

"My job is to prevent hackers from breaking into our clients' systems. It is very interesting work because it means that I deal with some very smart people with interesting ideas on how to make our lives miserable."

"Ironically, they actually help us create a better system for the future."

Hackers — or crackers, a term that Simard and his peers favor — see breaching security as an intellectual exercise rather than a money maker.

"For the most part, they don't want to destroy businesses or be malicious. They just want to break in for the same reason that you want to win a game of chess: it is an intellectual exercise, something exciting to do on a Friday night."

"There are two types of hackers, what we call black hats and the white hats. Black hats want to break in and create havoc so they can boast to their friends: I killed e-Bay, I killed Microsoft, look how big I am."

"White hats break in but then tell us exactly how they did it, exactly where our systems are vulnerable. Sometimes they actually work with us in plugging the leaks."

### Regulation is "dangerous"

Hackers have sometimes been vilified in the press for their ability to wreak havoc on large chunks of cyber space, and some, like Montreal's own Mafiaboy, have been jailed, Simard says that all the expensive and time consuming efforts to track them down could backfire badly.

"It is very dangerous to stop hackers through regulation because they are helping us build better systems," Simard said.

He added that a flawed security

system is actually worse than none at all.

"You are better off having no security than a mediocre security system. A weak system will give you a false sense of security, leaving you vulnerable to hackers, and they will have busted in before you know it. If you have no security, you'll be acutely aware of it and you'll at least be constantly vigilant of any breaches of your database."

### High level of expertise needed

Ultimately, Simard predicts that the constant cat-and-mouse game between hackers and security experts will be won by the computer establishment.

As every flaw in computer security gets breached, then sealed, presenting a blueprint for increasingly airtight systems, breaking in will begin to prove too daunting for all but the best and most dedicated computer geeks.

"What man makes, man can break. But over time, hacking will become too difficult for most; it will demand a very high level of expertise. At that point, hopefully, industry will hire the remaining few who can still do it."

The bottom line, Simard says, is that "more people are working on internet security than are trying to break in."

# Clearing the world's land mines is a daunting task

BY SYLVAIN COMEAU

**L**and mines are a weapon of war, but most of their victims are civilians — usually children, who often get killed or maimed long after the war is over.

Elizabeth Hunt is a graduate of the School of Community and Public Affairs and a youth ambassador with UNICEF Canada's Youth Mine Action Ambassador Program (YMAAP). She discussed the tragedy of land-mine use in a lecture on January 26.

She quoted U.S. Gulf War commander General Norman H. Schwarzkopf, who said that there is no proof that land mines ever made a significant difference in an armed conflict. She also quoted grim official statistics: Every 22 minutes, someone is killed or maimed by a land mine.

"It could be much higher, because land mine accidents are often reported as traffic accidents, or they're not even reported at all."

### Clearing land mines

Years of mine-clearing operations have barely scratched the surface of the millions of mines — 110 million is the best estimate — left over from wars, civil and otherwise. An international treaty was signed by 137 countries in 1998, but as recently as last month, Paul Hannon, the execu-

tive director of Mines Action Canada in Ottawa, called for greater long-term financial commitments from the treaty signatories, beyond the \$500 million pledged in 1998.

Part of that money is earmarked for victim-assistance programs, because victims lose limbs and need care for the rest of their lives. On a recent trip to Cambodia, a country particularly hard hit by mine accidents, Hunt visited rehabilitation centres and saw victims without legs riding makeshift skateboards. She says that prosthetic limbs are not always an option.

"Sometimes a family has to choose between buying a prosthetic limb or buying essentials like food. If a family can't afford a prosthetic leg, then a child can't go to school and acquire skills outside of the farm. But they can't work on the farm either in that condition. So it's a catch-22."

The rest of the money pledged for the treaty is used for mine clearing, a painstaking and dangerous process. Tens of millions of mines will have to be cleared by hand.

"Mine clearing is one of the five most dangerous jobs in the world. It is expensive, because it has to be done manually, so it involves a lot of man hours. But that's still not a very high cost when you compare it to military budgets. It all depends on where a country places its priorities."

Heavily populated land is the

most pressing concern. Egypt has one of the highest concentrations of land mines — they were left over from World War II — but most are in unpopulated stretches of desert. In other areas, like Mozambique, Bosnia and Cambodia, land mines are a serious humanitarian concern, especially for migrants and refugees, who are often or constantly on the move through potentially mined territory.

"One of the problems in Cambodia is that there is a wet and a dry season. During the dry season, a family can arrive in an area and walk around without any problems because the ground is hard. But during the wet season, the ground becomes soft, and suddenly that same safe ground they settled on six months ago is now dangerous."

Unfortunately, until they are dug up or stepped on, a mine can sit and wait virtually forever for its victim.

One proposed solution, first attempted during the Persian Gulf War, was to create "smart land mines," with a battery designed to run out in a fixed period of time. But the experiment failed during that war, because the hot sun of the Middle Eastern desert continually recharges the batteries.

"You also never know how long a war will last. What happens if the mine is timed for three years, and the war only lasts six months?"



# Brothers in a box for kids on the street

BY JOSEPH BERGER

Though the days are getting warmer, March nights in Montreal are pretty chilly. For a dozen Concordia students, March 21 was especially cold.

As a mound of wet snow was dumped on the city, Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity brothers spent the night sleeping on the concrete next to Concordia's Henry F. Hall Building. The annual ritual, which goes back 11 years, is known as Teke in a Box.

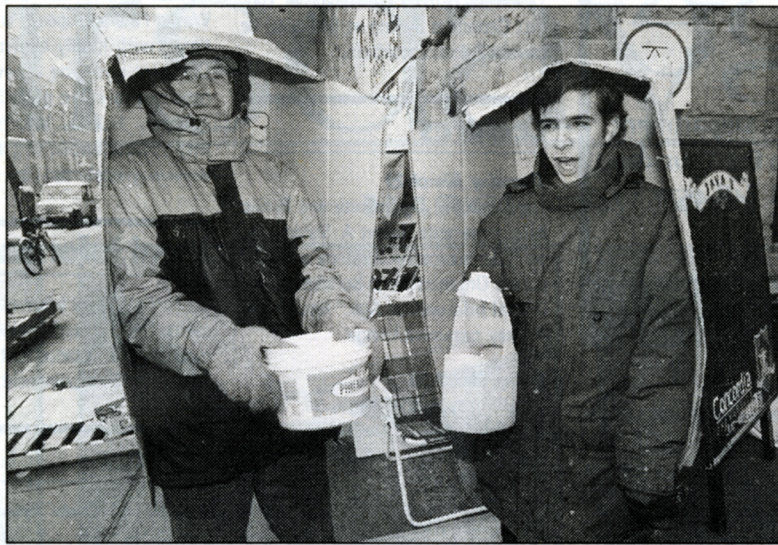
They spent 36 hours, in shifts, on the corner of Mackay and de Maisonneuve, raising more than \$5,700 from passersby for Dans La Rue, Father Emmett Johns' well-known charity.

"It's an organization that helps homeless youth in Montreal by giving them food at night in a Winnebago," Teke member Paolo Thérien explained. "There's a centre for them by day where they can get health care, some education, see a psychiatrist or some people to talk to. They also have a bunker where some can go sleep at night."

## Shanty building

Dans La Rue's bunker holds about 20 kids. That's somewhat larger than the shanty Thérien and his brothers erected early Wednesday morning. The contraption, made out of wooden crates, cardboard and a heap of blue tarp, held up during the freak March storm.

"It was fairly well-insulated with the cardboard and the tarp," said



Teke members Paolo Thérien (left) and Roberto Calderon (right).

Dylan Flanagan, who camped out for the third year in a row. "The snow on the roof actually helped out a bit, kept it insulated."

At 25, Thérien is completing his fourth and final year of Concordia at the end of the term, he'll take home a diploma recognizing his degree in International Political Science. Thérien knows that he is fortunate enough to have a wall on which he can hang his diploma. In the past, he's spent time at Dans La Rue's shelter for street kids.

"I've been to the centre, and I've seen where the money goes," he said. For that reason, Thérien keeps coming back, this year for the fourth time, to help raise much-needed cash for Dans La Rue.

Thérien joined the 102-year-old fraternity when he came to Concordia four years ago. A native of Le Gardeur, a small town near

Repentigny, Thérien didn't know too many people in Montreal, and almost none at Concordia.

## Welcoming fraternity

Tau Kappa Epsilon is known for providing a welcoming atmosphere to Concordia students, and for distancing itself from the wild parties and elitism associated with most fraternities, especially those in the United States.

Thérien found a real brotherhood. "We have parties, mixers with sorority girls, and all that," he said, "but there's a great level of maturity here."

That maturity is best shown by a group of warmly dressed 20-something guys, sleeping on the hard pavement of downtown Montreal. Thérien knows no better way to spend a late-winter night.

"There's a real sense of pride here, and it's a lot of fun, too."

# Online student paper undergoes growing pains

## Digital debut marred by poll tampering

BY DAVID WEATHERALL

The first Concordia student newspaper to go online has done so with relative success. *The Concordian*, published on newsprint for over three decades, launched their complementary online version, [www.theconcordian.com](http://www.theconcordian.com), in January. Webmaster Kevin Mio said it went off without a hitch — until last week.

One of the features offered by the online version of *The Concordian* is an interactive poll. Every week, a new question is posed to visitors, who vote for their answer and see the results of the poll in real time. This feature enjoyed only minimal participation for its first seven questions, with fewer than 80 votes registered per poll.

All that changed when *The Concordian* asked which CSU candidates students were going to vote for in this week's annual election. Suddenly, over the course of two days, candidate Sabrina Stea's votes increased from 20 to 300, while opposing candidate Chris Schulz's votes climbed from 30 to over 1,000.

"I would like to think it is because people actually care about the CSU elections," Mio said. "Unfortunately, I seriously doubt that is the case."

"It is probably members of the parties that are receiving the majority of votes who have swayed the voting to try and use the poll as ammunition." The way in which deviant surfers can abuse the poll isn't extraordinarily complicated, but it is time-consuming. The polling program is based on an internet protocol (IP) recognition system, which means once you've dialed up your Internet connection, you cannot vote more than once.

However, since every time you dial your connection you are assigned a different IP, to vote more than once, all you have to do is disconnect and then re-connect. "Somebody sure had a lot of time on their hands last weekend," Mio said. "It's rather disheartening."

With poll results showing Schultz leading Stea by roughly 700 votes, there is concern that this information may influence the upcoming elections. However, it hasn't been published in the paper.

*The Concordian's* Web site receives on average about 400 hits a month. Presidential candidate Paul Backman, whose nine votes accounted for 1 per cent of votes cast in the poll, said, "I think anyone who sees the poll will see how unrealistic it is, and how there was the potential for such a poll to be abused."

The editorial board of *The Concordian* has decided to continue using the poll without a disclaimer, because Mio feels that under normal circumstances, the poll does not pose a threat to anyone. If the poll continues to be abused, though, the newspaper will reassess their policy.

Voting in the CSU election took place Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of this week. Results weren't known by the time of publication.

## Historian Geoffrey Adams honoured by his friends

Loneragan College was the scene of a book-launch and a tribute recently. The tribute was to retired professor Geoffrey Adams, who started teaching at Loyola College in 1962.

"He hired me, and also the virtual core of the Loyola College History Department," Professor Tittler recalled. "It was a department which took teaching seriously enough to have produced three Rhodes Scholars between 1967 and 1971, and many other fine students prior to the [1974] merger. Geoff inspired us all to the joys and challenges of active engagement in the life of the institution. I am not alone in owing to him the bulk of my career."

Dr. Adams has published two books since his retirement in 1991, and is working on a third.

At the reception, he was presented with a copy of the book being launched, History Professor Robert Tittler's *Townpeople and Nation, English Urban Experiences, 1500-1640*, (Stanford University Press).

Unfortunately, although Dr. Tittler wrote his book in part for use in his course on English Urban History (HIST 369), the course has been cancelled for falling short of the 25-student minimum. "The book will have to be used by students elsewhere," Tittler concluded.

## Theft in Bishop Court

A theft took place overnight March 19-20 in Bishop Court, which houses many of Concordia's administration offices. Eleven computer units were stolen, to the value of about \$25,000.

Security measures have been increased in the building, and these measures will continue, including the free engraving of ID numbers on request.

About 40 people work in Bishop Court, an historic three-storey building on the southeast corner of Bishop St. and de Maisonneuve Blvd.



## Thanks to outgoing Garnet Key

Members of the Garnet Key Society celebrated their year of service to the university at a dinner in the Faculty Club on March 23, and turned over their responsibilities — officiating at university events — to a new group of students. Seated, from left to right, are Raihan Malik, Naheda S. Haijar (administrator), Hélène Cossette (University Protocol/new supervisor), Antonina DiGiorgio (VP finance), Laura Weir, Anita Blaszcak, Travis Chalmers (president), Shafiqah Khadri. In the back are Eric Amboise and David DiLenardo (vice-president). Gordon Starck was not present for the photo.



# the back page

Events, notices and classified ads must reach the Public Relations Department (BC-115) in writing no later than Thursday, 5 p.m. the week prior to the Thursday publication. For more information, please contact Debbie Hum at 848-4579, by fax: 848-2814 or by e-mail: [ctr@alcor.concordia.ca](mailto:ctr@alcor.concordia.ca).

March 29 • April 12

## Applied Psychology Centre

The Applied Psychology Centre in the Department of Psychology offers confidential psychotherapy and assessment for adults, couples, families, children and teenagers. By appointment only. 848-7550.

## Art

### Leonard & Bina Ellen Art Gallery

Monday to Friday 11am-7pm; Saturday 1pm-5pm; closed Sundays. 1400 de Maisonneuve W. Free. Info: 848-4750.

### Until April 17

25 Artists, 25 Years: Celebrating the Faculty of Fine Arts.

### Bourget Gallery

Monday to Friday 10am-12:30pm and 1:30-5pm. 1230 de la Montagne.

### Until March 30

Memories of Perception, by Carrie Bach-er and Terri Kingdon.

### Art as a Prescription

An art exhibition in the waiting room of Concordia's Health Services, with works by Amy Drover, Ashleigh Elson, Marie-Claude Guérette, Sonia Martineau and Erin Lee Snow. 2155 Guy Street, Room 407. Monday to Friday 9am-5pm. Vernissage April 5, 5pm.

## CPR classes

### Environmental Health and Safety

For information and prices on the courses listed below, call Donna Fasciano at 848-4355.

### Thursday, March 29

Heartsaver

### Wednesday, April 4

Heartsaver

### Wednesday, April 18

Heartsaver - French

## Campus Ministry

<http://advocacy.concordia.ca/ministry/>  
Loyola: Belmore House, L-WF 101, 2496 W. Broadway, 848-3588; SGW: Annex Z, rooms 102-106, 2090 Mackay, 848-3590.

### Healing and the Body: Healing and the Spirit

Discussion group on the book, *Anatomy of the Spirit: The Seven Stages of Power & Healing*, by Caroline Myss. Wednesdays 4:30-5:30pm, L-WF 110-10 (Belmore House), 848-3587.

### Prison Visit Program

Mondays 6-9pm. Peter Côté 848-3586, [pecote@vax2.concordia.ca](mailto:pecote@vax2.concordia.ca).

### Dream Catching

Learning or deepening skills to "catch" and understand your dreams, the vital window to the soul and psyche. Wednesdays 3-4:30pm. Campus Ministry - Annex Z, Room 105. Information: Michelina Bertone 848-3591.

### Mother Hubbard's Cupboard

Vegetarian meals, Mondays 5-7pm. Annex Z (2090 Mackay), Room 105. Suggested donation \$1.

### Stress Reduction Through Mindfulness

Thursdays 4:15-6pm. Annex Z (2090 Mackay) Room 105.

### Insight Meditation

SGW (Z-205): Wednesdays 11:45-1pm. & 5:15-7pm. Loyola (Belmore House L-WF 100-10): Tuesdays 11:45am-1pm.

### Buddha's Nature

Reading group Wednesdays, 1:30-2:45pm, Annex Z, Room 105.

### Retreat in Daily Life

Registration: David Eley 848-3587.

### The Lunch Bunch

You bring your lunch, we provide coffee/tea/hot chocolate. Thursdays 12:30-2pm, Annex Z, Room 105.

### Flicks, TV & Tunes: The Student's Guide to the Universe and Beyond

Find out how pop culture give us clues to our common quest for meaning. Thursdays 2:30-4pm. Annex Z Room 105.

### Pathways to Inner Peace

Meditate and experience the transforming power of God's love. Tuesdays noon-1pm, Annex Z Room 105.

### Reflections

Learn new ways to incorporate spirituality into your daily living. Tuesdays 3:30-5pm, Annex Z Room 105.

### Outreach Experience

Volunteer service program. Info: Michelina Bertone 848-3591.

## Centre for Teaching & Learning Services

To register for any of the following workshops, please contact the Centre for Teaching and Learning Services at 848-2495 or [ctls@alcor.concordia.ca](mailto:ctls@alcor.concordia.ca). <http://relish.concordia.ca/ctls/>

### Infusing Critical Thinking into Instruction

Only those who "think through" the content of their subject matter truly learn it. This hands-on workshop will provide strategies for teaching instruction on critical thinking directly into content areas. March 30, 9:30am-12pm, H-771.

### Managing Class Communication Using Electronic Peer Conferencing Tools

This workshop will take a brief look at Internet communication tools and deal with the practical issues of getting students to participate, enabling peer support, and managing a large amount of correspondence. April 10, 10am-12pm, H-771.

## Concert Hall

Oscar Peterson Concert Hall, 7141 Sherbrooke St. W. Box office hours: Monday-Friday, 10am-noon, 2-5pm. Reservations through Admission at 790-1245 or <http://www.admission.com>. Tickets at door only: \$5 general, free for students with ID. For more listings: <http://oscar.concordia.ca>.

### Thursday, March 29

Concordia jazz guitar ensemble, at 8pm. Music composed by Stevie Wonder and arranged especially for this group by director Andrew Homzy.

### Sunday, April 1

A violin and piano concert with works by Brahms, Copland and others, at 3pm. With Marie-Anne Rozankovic and Simon-Philippe Allard, students of Claude Richard (accompanied by Elise Richard).

### Sunday, April 1

Robert Schumann's Carnival, and other works performed by members of the piano seminar, at 8pm.

### Tuesday, April 3

The Concordia Choir performs Carl Orff's "Carmina Burana" under the direction of Mary-Jane Puiui. 8pm

### Wednesday, April 4

Jazz combo, 8pm. Directed by Gary Schwartz.

### Friday, April 6

Big band, 8pm. Directed by Dave Turner.

### Saturday, April 7

Classical vocal repertoire, 8pm. Students directed by Valerie Kinslow.

### Sunday, April 8

*The Reformed Drunkard and Down in the Valley*, 8pm. Two delightful one-act operas. Directed by Liselyn Adams and Valerie Kinslow.

### Monday, April 9

Loyola Orchestra, 8pm. Performances by Evgenia Kirjner, Sarah Hasegawa, students of Gregory Chavardian. Conducted by Monique Martin.

### Tuesday, April 10

Jazz improvisation ensembles, 8pm. Directed by Dave Turner.

## Counselling and Development

SGW: H-440, 848-3545; Loyola: 2490 W. Broadway, 848-3555.

### Student Success Program Centre

Take a Student Success Check-Up! Get connected to the right resources! Sign up for workshops at H-481.

### Pride

An exploration group for lesbians, gays, bisexuals, and those questioning their sexual orientation. Sign up in H-481.

### More than relaxation

Through a series of carefully structured movement lessons, you will learn to move more comfortably, relax more completely and act more efficiently. Thursday, March 29, noon-1pm, H-440.

### Leadership and team building

Learn the characteristics of good leaders, how to motivate others, and give constructive feedback. Thursday, March 29, 1:30-4:30pm, H-440.

## Employee Assistance Program

The Employee Assistance Program (EAP) is a voluntary, confidential counselling and information service for full-time, permanent University employees and their families. 24 hours a day - 7 days a week. 1-800-387-4765 (English) 1-800-361-5676 (French)

### Tuesday, April 17

*Respect in the Workplace*: How to accept the differences in others' working styles and create an atmosphere of tolerance. 12-1:15pm, H-769. Free. To register, contact Carmelita Swann at 848-3668 or [cswann@alcor.concordia.ca](mailto:cswann@alcor.concordia.ca).

## Lectures

### Thursday, March 29

The School of Community and Public Affairs presents Robert A. Valdmans, on "Communication Strategy and Corporate Organizational Survival in the Digital Information Age." 6pm, 2149 Mackay, basement lounge.

### Friday, March 30

Dr. William Vanderburgh, on "Some Observations about Observation." Part of the Philosophy Colloquium Series. 3pm, H-433.

### Friday, March 30

The Department of Theological Studies presents "Resistance to Hemispheric Free Trade: Signs of an Emerging Consciousness in the Americas?" 7-9pm, Loyola High School Cafetorium, 7272 Sherbrooke W.

### Saturday, March 31

The Department of Theological Studies presents "The Role of Theology in Developing a New Consciousness About the State and Economic Powers." 10am-4:30pm, Loyola High School library, 7272 Sherbrooke W.

### Tuesday, April 3

Dr. Judith Lapierre, on "My Experience as a Crew Member in the SFINCCS Mission - 99, Moscow, Russia." 12:30pm, Department of Applied Human Sciences, Annex S-F-107.

### Monday, April 2

Le Département d'Études françaises de l'Université Concordia et l'Institut Simone de Beauvoir vous convient à la 1ère journée "Féminisme et Francophonie" et à la projection du film de Issiaka Konate sur l'écrivaine WereWere Liking. "WereWere Liking, L'utopie mise en scène." Suivi d'une table ronde avec Issiaka Konate, Marie Celie Agnant, Bineka Lissouba et Nefer-tari Belizaire. Sous la présidence de Lucie Lequin. De 11h30 à 14h30, H-767.

### Tuesday, April 3

Dr. Van Suong Hoa (Mechanical Engineering), on "Composites." 4pm, H-767.

### Friday, April 6

Concordia's Hellenic Studies Unit presents Dr. Speros Vryonis (Center for the Studies of Hellenism, California), on "The Role of Byzantine Studies in the Development of the Hellenic Studies Programs in North America." 7pm, H-767.

### Friday, April 6

The Simone de Beauvoir Institute presents Dr. Roxanna Bahramitash, on "Gender Politics and Social Transformation in Indonesia." Noon, MU-203.

### Friday, April 6

The Department of Art History presents Anthea Callen (Nottingham University), on "Anatomy, Masculinity and Sexuality." 2pm, VA-210. Info: 848-4697.

### Friday, April 6

Dr. Paul Reed (Carleton University), on "New Research Findings on Canada's Not-For-Profit Sector." Coffee and croissants at 8:15am, lecture at 8:45am, H-767. Sponsored by the Graduate Diploma in Administration.

### Friday, April 6

The John Molson School of Business presents Arch G. Woodside (Boston College), on the "National Character and Buying of Tourism-Related Consumer Services." 2pm, DeSève Cinema, LB-125.

### Monday, April 9

The School of Community and Public Affairs presents Dr. Nicholas Spencer (University of Warwick, England), on "Healthy Children, Healthy Societies:

Towards a New Policy Agenda." 5pm, Faculty Club Lounge H-767.

### Thursday, April 12

Author and former U.S. diplomat Wayne Peterson speaks on his experiences with highly evolved spiritual teachers and why a new vision is required to solve global problems. 7:30pm, H-110. Info: 384-1921, <http://taraquebec.org/conf/> or [www.waynepeterson.com](http://www.waynepeterson.com).

## Legal Information

Concordia's Legal Information Services offers free and confidential legal information and assistance to the Concordia community. By appointment: 848-4960.

## Notices

### Graduate Students' Association Book Sale

Until March 30 from 9am to 8pm in the Hall Building mezzanine. Come on by for some great deals!

### Award for graduate mentoring

Presented to full-time professors teaching at the graduate level for at least six years. Current and former students are asked by their graduate students' associations to nominate candidates. Deadline is March 30. Contact the School of Graduate Studies.

### Katimavik youth program

For seven months, Katimavik offers Canadian young men and women aged 17 to 21 a chance to live in a group of 11 people with a project leader who supervises their learning and ensures that their program goes smoothly. Free. Deadline to apply is April 27, 2001. Call 1-888-525-1503 or [www.katimavik.org](http://www.katimavik.org).

### Hiring business/science graduates

Millennium Research Group is a rapidly growing research and consulting firm specializing in the healthcare industry, currently recruiting recent graduates with a degree in business or science. Information: (416) 364-7776, [kasumioda@mrg.net](mailto:kasumioda@mrg.net).

### Introduction to a new philosophy

Join a discussion group now being formed based on the ideas of Plato and Aristotle, Hegel and Marx, and beyond. On the limitations of science; reason in the universe; the nature of consciousness; the future of a technological society; problems of socialism and more. Call James Lewis, 931-1657.

## Office of Rights & Responsibilities

The Office of Rights and Responsibilities is available to all members of the university community for confidential consultations regarding any type of unacceptable behaviour, including discrimination and personal/sexual harassment, threatening and violent conduct, theft, destruction of property. 848-4857, or drop by GM-1120.

## Ombuds Office

The Ombuds Office is available to all members of the University for information, confidential advice and assistance with university-related problems. Call 848-4964, or drop by our new location at GM-1120.

## Peer Support Centre

### Need to talk?

We provide confidential listening and informative referrals to all Concordia students. Mon-Thurs 12-5pm, 2090 Mackay, Room 02, 848-2859.

### Become a volunteer

Interested in becoming a volunteer at the Peer Support Centre? You would learn about communication, problem-solving,

university resources, being part of a group and lots more. It's challenging, often fun, and a way to be helpful to other students. Drop by the Peer Support Centre, 2090 Mackay. Tel. 848-3590, or e-mail at: [hellieh@alcor.concordia.ca](mailto:hellieh@alcor.concordia.ca). Application deadline is April 12, 2001.

## Theatre

### The Bacchae

Euripedes' play translated by Nicholas Rudall, directed by Harry Standjovski. General admission \$10, students \$5. March 30-31 and April 1, 5, 6, and 7 at 8pm, April 8 at 2pm, D.B. Clarke Theatre.

### Fifteen Love / Truth Hurts

Pro-Can Theatre presents a double bill: a romantic comedy, *Fifteen Love*, and *Truth Hurts*, a family drama, by Randi Cousineau. Friday and Saturday March 30-31 at 7:30pm. Rosedale-Queen Mary United Church, 6870 de Terrebonne, NDG. Students \$6. Ages 16+

## Unclassified

### Editing services

Excellent rates and excellent results, provided by PhD student. Please contact me at 931-3021.

### Writer/editor wanted

Literary student or professor for rewriting a historical novel. Dr. Zaman, 845-7227.

### Seeking furnished house

Seeking three-bedroom furnished apartment or house for two months this summer, June 15-Aug. 15, for visiting family of two adults, 2 children. Ideal for a sublet. NDG or adjacent areas preferred. Contact D. Sheps, 482-8987.

### Cycling tours in Central Europe

Travel with us to the Czech Republic. Explore beautiful countryside, old castles, churches and the most beautiful city in the world, the golden Prague. Each day's itinerary includes spectacular scenery, a lesson in a local history and plenty of opportunities to soak up the local colour. Summer 2001: 13-day tours run from May 27 to Sept. 14. Affordable prices. Info: (831) 663-6890 or [CyclingInternational@prodigy.net](mailto:CyclingInternational@prodigy.net).

### Drivers for elderly needed

Senior centres in East-End, downtown and Lachine urgently need volunteer drivers. If you can spare some time, call Anna at 937-5351, ext. 264.

### Ikea loveseat for sale

Pale colours in a geometric chevron pattern. Comfortable, in good condition, \$90. Call 931-8314.

### Ladies' fur coat for sale

Beautiful full length raccoon coat with shawl collar. Size 12, excellent condition, \$600. Call 931-8314.

### Volunteers for orphanage

Need female volunteers to help in an orphanage in Jaipur, India. Minimum period of work 4 months. Orphanage run by retired Concordia Professor. [sheela.bhavan@usa.net](mailto:sheela.bhavan@usa.net).

### Volunteer with kids

Preschools in Verdun, Lasalle and Ville Emard areas need teachers and teacher assistants. Weekdays 9-11:30am. Help with storytelling, arts and crafts and play group. Anna 937-5351 ext 246.

### House wanted for summer

Looking for a house to rent this summer in NDG, Westmount, Montreal West, CDN or Outremont. Minimum 3 bedrooms with all amenities for 2 adults, 2 children (ages 9 and 13). Needed for a month, June 24 to August 5 (flexible at either end). We are Montrealers currently living in Johannesburg, S.A. [danielfeist@icon.co.za](mailto:danielfeist@icon.co.za).

See page 10  
for more listings